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ECONOMY MINISTER DEFENDS POLICY, LEAVES FOR U.S.

PY021809 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 2355 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 1 Feb (DYN) -- Answering recent criticism by union sources of the government's economic policy, Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun has categorically defended the economic policy that was implemented during the (military) process."

Grinspun issued this statement at Ezeiza airport minutes before his departure for New York, where he will carry out financial negotiations with representatives of the international banking sector and will participate in meetings organized by the Council of the Americas and the Argentine-U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

ECONOMY MINISTER GRINSPUN DISCUSSES INDICATORS

PY010115 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2030 GMT 31 Jan 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 31 Jan (NA) -- After a meeting today during which the evolution of the main economic indicators for February was estimated, Economy Minister Bernardo Grinspun officially announced that salaries will be increased 11 percent in February, while utility rates will be increased 10 percent.

The Central Bank, for its part, this evening disclosed that interest rates for February have been set at 10 percent for savers and 11 percent for borrowers and that it has established a legal compulsory deposit system dividing the country into three zones and taking into account the type of deposits.

Minister Grinspun announced that in the next few hours the Central Bank will set the interest rates for February and confirmed that they will be slightly negative for savers and by the same proportion positive for borrowers.

Grinspun announced that the increase in the private sector take-home pay will be of 11 percent. Although the average pay increase for the public sector will be 11 percent, however, it was pointed out that some increases will be lower or higher that that average. These increases will be established case by case by the public sector's recently created salary commission. It is believed that the differences will lie between enterprises, organizations, and eventually between categories. In any case, the increases established for both the private and public sectors are in take-home pay.

On utility rates, Minister Grinspun said that the increase for February will be 10 percent for public services and combustibles, although here again he noted that this is an average because the increase in some items will be higher than in others. As in the case of public sector pay hikes, Grinspun did not reveal the maximum or minimum increase from which that average will be calculated.

Economy Minister Grinspun made these announcements at the end of a meeting lasting more than 2 hours and attended by the most important members of the socioeconomic team.

Among those present were Public Works and Services Minister Roque Carranza; Labor Minister Antonio Mucci; Public Health and Social Action Minister Aldo Neri; Industry Minister Carlos Lacerca; Finance Secretary Norberto Bertaina; Agriculture and Livestock Minister Licio Reca; and Secretary General of the Presidency German Lopez.

The economy minister maintained that the cost of living during January increased as expected, by between 11 and 12 percent. He pointed out that the figures could have been lower, but that the increase of meat prices made inflation the rate rise to closer to 12 percent that to the 11 percent that had been estimated.

The minister pointed out that according to official estimates the increase in the cost of living will be curbed in February so that it will probably be under 11 percent. Regarding the increases of meat prices in the past few days, the minister said that they had increased 17 percent in January.

Grinspun said that the effect of meat prices on cost of living figures is distorted because its effect is still being calculated on a historical rate of consumption that is much higher than current levels.

The minister also admitted that economic activities are very restricted, although this is because businesses have been speculating since prices were frozen 41 days ago. He pointed out that they will now have to release their stocks and, as a consequence, restart the productive cycle in order to reorganize it. In this regard he praised the Trade Secretariat's activites in seeking agreements with various sectors of the productive apparatus.

DEFENSE MINISTER VIEWS MILITARY 'UNEASINESS'

PY021806 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] This morning Defense Minister Raul Borras said that there is no uneasiness within the Armed Forces as a result of the measures being implemented by the national government. Besides, he said, we would not allow it.

Borras made these remarks upon his arrival at the Ninth Air Brigade in Commadoro Rivadavia during an inspection visit to military garrisons stationed in this area. He said: We wish to have a new Armed Forces, but this does not mean that their members will have to renounce their past. However, we do want then to renounce their political past, their permanent intervention in the constitutional life of the nation. He added: The Armed Forces will support not only our government, but all the Argentine people in their permanent aspiration to carry out the definitive democratization of the country.

POLITICAN ON ALFONSIN'S CARACAS CONFERENCE

PY022257 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 1651 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 2 Feb (DYN) -- Political leader Francisco Manrique today said that he believed that President Alfonsin's statements in Caracas "were measured, they were very proper." He added that Alfonsin "acted in keeping with the dignity of the president of the Argentine people." He noted: "In one word, I was calm and I felt that I was well-represented."

Manrique made this comment during an interview on the program "Morning Report" broadcast on Buenos Aires Radio Municipal. During the interview, Manrique discussed several national issues.

LOCKOUT PREVENTS UNION INTERVENTOR'S SWEARING IN

PY021833 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2050 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Buenos Aires, 1 Feb (NA) -- Labor Ministry officials today were unable to swear in Carlos Fernandez as the new interventor of the Paper Industry Workers Federation because a group of union leaders closed the paper workers' union headquarters and did not answer the appeals made by the official delegation to allow them to enter the building.

The officials drafted a statement specifying what had taken place in front of more than 100 paper industry workers who were carrying placards and chanting slogans supporting the intervention authorized by the government "because it has been proven that there were violations of the statutes."

600 'NO NAME' BODIES ALLEGEDLY BURIED IN CORDOBA

PY022342 Buenos Aires CLARIN in Spanish 29 Jan 84 p 8

[Excerpt] Cordoba municipality officials have filed a charge with Federal Judge Gustavo Becerra Ferrer involving 16 San Vicente Cemetery officials. It is estimated that more than 600 no name bodies are buried there. This news was released in Cordoba yesterday, a day after the Mar del Plata municipality reported that 240 no name bodies were buried in local cemeteries between 1976 and 1983. Meanwhile, the report filed by the Cordoba officials involves officials who held office between 1976 and 1977.

According to the reports, 300 bodies buried in a common grave 25 meters long, 4 meters wide, and more than 3 meters deep. The other 300 no name bodies were reportedly buried -- it has been learned -- in individual graves or under existing graves.

Despite the secrecy involving the details of this case both at the Cordoba municipality and at the Federal Court, it has been learned that the burials took place between 1976 and 1977, always at night. In some cases -- it transpired -- the bodies were driven in ambulances, presumably from the morgues of the San Roque and Cordoba Hospitals. Trucks were also used.

BUSINESSMEN TO PROTEST COB-GOVERNMENT AGREEMENT

PY020124 Paris AFP in Spanish 1706 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] La Paz, 1 Feb (AFP) -- Today the Confederation of Private Businessmen reacted with concern to the de facto power of the Bolivian Labor Confederation [COB], which managed to reach an economic agreement with the government that the businessmen had rejected.

Fernando Illanes, president of the private business group, categorically stated that Bolivia is now being led to despair and chaos, but that we will not allow our destruction.

The businessmen's confederation charged the transnational policy that has infiltrated the government (Communist Party) with trying to thwart private initiative and trying to impose a proletarian dictatorship.

A delegate to the extraordinary meeting of the Businessmen's Confederation proposed a 24-hour strike to protest the 57-percent salary increase granted by the government, the state's monopoly over gold exploitation, the retroactive effect of the salary increase, and the state's control over the export of minerals.

Planning and Coordination Minister Roberto Jordan Pando stated that the private sector received more foreign currency than the public sector and that the businessmen increased the price of their products by more than 57 percent, which is the same amount salaries were increased. Therefore, they should be able to cope with the salary increase.

48-Hour Stoppage 6 Feb

PY021342 La Paz Cadena Panamericana in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpts] The special meeting of private business groups ended last night at 2100. The businessmen approved several decisions, the most important being to hold a 48-hour stoppage in rejection of the government's economic policies. The businessmen decided to hold the 48-hour stoppage beginning at 0000 next Monday, 6 February.

DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS ESTABLISHED WITH JAMAICA, BARBADOS

FL022259 Bridgetown CANA in English 2145 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Washington, Feb 2 (CANA) -- Bolivia today established formal diplomatic relations with Barbados and Jamaica in a ceremony held at the Washington headquarters of the Organisation of American States (OAS).

Fernando Salazar Paredes, ambassador of Bolivia, signed separate documents with his counterpart from Barbados, Peter Laurie, and from Jamaica, Keith Johnson.

Ambassador Lauri said the establishment of diplomatic ties with Bolivia "represents a further step in strengthening our bonds with South America and with Latin America as a whole."

He hoped this would lead to "strengthening the ties of friendship between our two peoples and our two governments."

Ambassador Salazar Paredes replied that his government was confident that "with the formal step we have taken, Bolivia and Barbados will work harder so that the peoples of that beautiful island of the Atlantic Ocean and of our temporarily landlocked country will jointly contribute towards peace, security, and prosperity on this side of the world."

Ambassador Johnson called the signing "a great day, because what we are doing in a formal sense is setting in motion greater channels for communication and understanding."

Johnson also expressed Jamaica's solidarity with Bolivia's efforts to promote democracy, socio-economic development, and stability in the Americas.

The Bolivian ambassador said that with Jamaica, his country has experienced the "most cordial of relations...accordingly, by formalising our relations, we are exteriorizing our will to strengthen them even more, so that we may together do our utmost to further the meaning of inter-American relations with the sole objective of making our hemisphere a better place to live in peace and in a context of values cherished by free men."

"The Government of Bolivia rejoices today because we are formalising our diplomatic links with Jamaica and Barbados.

"We are confident that, from now on, we will explore ways and means so that the output of these relations will benefit our peoples," concluded Ambassador Salazar Paredes.

PRESIDENT FIGUEIREDO TO TRAVEL TO BOLIVIA 7 FEB

PY030129 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] President Joao Figueiredo will travel to Bolivia on 7 February for a 2-day visit. This will be the first visit by a Latin American president since President Hernan Siles Zuazo's democratic government came into office. During the visit, a technical cooperation agreement will be signed. The agreement will cover the areas of sugar, alcohol and rubber production, and health.

MEDICAL REPORT SAYS FIGUEIREDO'S HEALTH NORMAL

PY030146 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] [Passage indistinct] In a medical report released this afternoon, Dr Jose Manuel de Camargo Teixeira -- the executive director of the Heart Institute -- reported that President Joao Figueiredo's health is normal. Upon leaving the Heart Institute, presidential spokesman Carlos Atila reported that the president will undergo new medical checkups in 3 or 4 months.

GOVERNMENT OPPOSES SOUTH ATLANTIC DEFENSE PACT

PY021705 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1616 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Brasilia, 2 Feb (EFE) -- The Brazilian Government today declared itself to be "vehemently against" the formation of a defense pact among South Atlantic countries. This proposal has been made by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin in a statement made in Caracas.

Brazilian Foreign Ministry spokesman Bernardo Pericas said that his government has time and again stated its opposition to any military pact in the South Atlantic because it believes that the region should be kept free of confrontations and tensions in order for South Atlantic countries to develop.

According to Pericas, the formation of a multinational defense treaty in the South Atlantic has never been discussed by the Brazilian authorities with the new Argentine Government.

The Brazilian spokesman added that since 1978 his government has time and again stated its opposition to the formation of a military pact in the region.

CUT LEADERS TOURING EUROPE PLAN GENERAL STRIKE

PY021132 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 1 Feb 84 p 3

[Excerpts] Rome (ANSA) -- While on a tour of Europe, Brazilian CUT [Sole Central Organization of Workers] members yesterday announced that a general strike -- the first one in many years -- in which millions of workers will participate, is being organized in Brazil.

The strike, which will affect a country without a tradition of labor union struggle, is to be staged in April, a "hot" month from the standpoint of Brazil's sociopolitical life. In effect, the 20th anniversary of the 1964 military coup will be commemorated in April, and the contracts signed by some of the most militant unions -- like the Sao Paulo metalworkers union -- will be renewed this month. Also, Congress is due to vote in April on the amendment that will allow the election of the president of the republic by a direct ballot system.

The CUT members reported that they had already visited Portugal and Spain, and that from Italy they would travel to Belgium, the Netherlands, France, and Yugoslavia "to explain to political and union leaders why we created the CUT in August 1983 [as published] and why we decided to call for a general strike."

Jair Maneguelli, CUT general coordinator and Sao Paulo metalworkers leader; Jaco Bittar, a Campinas oilworkers leader who is in charge of CUT international relations; and Jose Gomez Novaes, leader of CUT peasant unions, said that the support that the CUT has lent to the campaign in favor of direct elections in Brazil "must be coupled with the struggle for labor union autonomy and for the rights of workers."

"The European public and our Latin American brothers must become aware that the regime's famous political opening has not benefited workers," Meneguelli said. "There can be no democracy in a country where the right to strike has not been recognized, where labor union autonomy is not respected, and where the government has intervened in six large unions forcing more than 150 labor leaders out of their posts in an arbitrary fashion," he added.

Jaco Bittar said that the CUT represents a significant stage in the struggle that Brazilian workers have waged "to set up an independent national structure outside the official fascist system." He recalled that the Brazilian labor laws, which are still in force, were modeled on the "Regulations of Work" [Carta del Trabajo] of the Mussolini dictatorship.

## BRIEFS

NEW OIL DEPOSIT DISCOVERED -- The Brazilian Petroleum Corporation [PETROBRAS] has just discovered a new oil deposit in Campos Basin. On a trial basis the deposit yielded 1,300 barrels of oil per day. [Summary] [Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 0200 GMT 24 Jan 84 PY]

IRRIGATION FACILITIES IN PIAUI -- Interior Minister Mario Andreazza and Piaui State Governor Hugo Napoleao have issued a decree approving a project for the construction of Piaui's largest dam. The dam's reservoir, which will hold 181 million cubic meters of water, will irrigate 2,000 hectares of agricultural land. The project will cost 1.7 billion cruzeiros. [Summary] [Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 25 Jan 84 PY]

JARPA ON POLITICAL DIALOGUE, RETURN OF EXILES

PY022335 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 2200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Sergio Onofre Jarpa today expressed his hope that there will not be a general strike. He noted in this regard that there is no possibility of a general strike, despite the efforts being made by extremist sectors and the daily appeals issued by Radio Moscow along this line.

The interior minister made this comment during a chat with journalists at the end of a luncheon that he attended at the invitation of leaders of the production, car industry, commercial, agricultural, and industrial sectors, among others.

Asked if the fact that he attended this massive meeting means that the [political] dialogue has resumed, Jarpa answered:

[Begin recording] [Unidentified reporter] Could this be interpreted as resumption of the dialogue?

[Jarpa] This is a very important step, because these persons represent such important national sectors as production, labor, commerce, agriculture, and so forth. [end recording]

Asked if he will study the request to allow the return of former legislators living in exile, Jarpa said that there are many kinds of legislators among this group. There are some who are good and others who are not so good. He said that each case will be studied on an individual basis.

As for the Christian Democratic position that the draft law on political parties does not help the democratization of the country, Jarpa said that this is an opinion that does not help the process.

SUPREME COURT DECISION ON RETURN OF EXILES

PY022219 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0440 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 31 Jan (EFE) -- The Supreme Court today accepted an appeal submitted on behalf of 25 persons who have been unable to return to Chile.

The court established that within 3 months the Interior Ministry must issue the proper decrees canceling the decisions that prohibit the return of these people.

In principle, an appeal on behalf of 3,549 persons was submitted through the Vicariate of Solidarity; however, the Interior Ministry reported that a decree authorizing the return of 3,478 persons had already been issued.

AD REJECTS PROPOSAL FOR APPOINTIVE CONGRESS

PY022214 Paris AFP in Spanish 1430 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, Chile, 2 Feb (AFP) -- The Democratic Alliance (AD), the Chilean opposition group, today rejected the proposal by some official sectors to install a congress whose members would be appointed by the military regime and approved by the people through a plebiscite.

The Chilean Congress, one of the oldest in America, was closed 10 years ago when the military ousted the leftist government of Salvador Allende and established the regime headed by General Augusto Pinochet.

The AD noted that the proposal made by the official sectors is a maneuver to improve the personal and authoritarian image of the system and to postpone the just aspiration of the Chilean people to immediately restore democracy in Chile.

The AD notes that the appointed congressmen would lack any representativity and independence, and thus they would lack real power to confront the executive branch. The AD includes the right, the Christian Democrats, the Radicals, the Social Democrats, and the Socialists.

The AD also criticized the holding of any plebiscite while public freedoms are restricted and before the voting registries are reopened. The voting registries were closed by the military in 1973.

CNI AGENT PROSECUTED FOR INFLICTING INJURIES

PY022225 Madrid EFE in Spanish 0338 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Santiago, 31 Jan (EFE) -- Manuel Reinaldo Varela Mendoza, an official of Chile's National Intelligence Center, [CNI] (Political Police), was prosecuted today by the Third Criminal Court for allegedly commiting a crime and inflicting minor injuries.

The CNI agent participated, along with some 40 other plainclothesmen, in the repression of a peaceful demonstration that was held on 1 May 1983 at Artesanos Square in Santiago.

Varela and two others from this group, which was branded "the Chilean Gurkhas" by the press, were identified by several eyewitnesses, because their pictures, showing them in action, were published by the local newspapers and weeklies.

Varela, whose bail was set at 20,000 pesos ($210), is being charged with causing minor injuries to four people, among them Dr Manuel Almeyda, who is the current president of the opposition Popular Democratic Movement (MDP) and brother of a former Chilean foreign minister now in exile.

POSSIBLE ALFONSIN-STROESSNER MEETING REPORTED

PY022325 Asuncion Televisora Paraguaya Television in Spanish 2300 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] According to reports datelined Buenos Aires, Argentine President Raul Alfonsin may meet with Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner on the way back from his trip to Venezuela and Colombia. The Argentine Foreign Ministry neither confirmed nor denied the report that Alfonsin would personally greet the Paraguayan president in view of the need for direct contacts between heads of state of neighboring countries.

We have asked local official circles about the possible presidential meeting. However, we could not confirm the report.

ANOTHER MOPOCO MEMBER RETURNS FROM EXILE

PY022254 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p 12

[Excerpt] Shortly after he returned to Paraguay, Antonio Gonzalez Prieto, a MOPOCO [Colorado Popular Movement] member, said: "I am returning from exile bearing faith in the democratic tenets of the Paraguayan Colorado Party. I went into exile for upholding these tenets and I am now returning with that faith unscathed. I am convinced that an institutional democratic rule, something that was a Colorado Party banner during the hard times, is now closer than ever." Gonzalez Prieto was delayed for several minutes due to customs and police paperwork, and the people who went to meet him were unable to enter the airport facilities.

RADICAL LIBERALS PLAN TO HOLD DEMONSTRATION

PY021403 Asuncion ABC COLOR in Spanish 2 Feb 84 p 9

[From the "Whispering" column]

[Text] The Radical Liberal Party intends to organize a rally in Asuncion or some other city. The Radicals have been encouraged by the large crowd that they were able to mobilize on 21 January for the lecture given by the U.S. ambassador.

POLITICAL, DIPLOMATIC REACTION TO ARANCO SPEECH

PY021422 [Editorial Report] Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish at 0000 GMT on 2 February 1984 carries reports on reaction to General Aranco's speech at his installation of commander of the Uruguayan Army. In a poorly recorded interview, Luis Alberto Lacalle, member of the National Party board, says that General Aranco's speech has not fulfilled the expectations that had been created. He goes on to say that Aranco made no new announcements on the situation of political parties and that, although the speech contained very "vague" announcements about the need to undertake political negotiations, no specifics were given.

The announcers report that Colorado Party leader Enrique Tarigo says that he disliked General Aranco's speech. In a recorded interview, he notes that "I frankly did not like the speech," because "I believe it should have included more specifics. It should have been delivered in a more conciliatory tone, and it should have been more constructive in content." Moreover, General Aranco should have addressed some of the issues that concern the Uruguayan people. Tarigo notes that Aranco said "very little" about the political dialogue and made "very vague" remarks in this regard. He adds that the Armed Forces should have already decided which political parties will participate in the elections and how they will be carried out, and that they should have made decisions on other national concerns.

The announcers say that according to Civic Union board President Humberto Ciganda, General Aranco's speech had some positive points, but that the people and political parties were expecting specific announcements. In a recorded excerpt of his remarks, Ciganda notes that "in general terms, it was a favorable speech because he made some helpful statements, but it was not fully satisfactory," because "all Uruguayans were expecting definitions on important issues such as those concerning the functioning of political parties," censorship, political restrictions, and other national issues. He notes that the people believed that General Aranco had been authorized to make certain political definitions public.

Ciganda says that among the positive aspects of Aranco's speech are his reassertions that the Army is apolitical, that it will support no political philosophy, and that "violent leftist parties" will not participate in the elections. Ciganda adds, however, that Aranco did not specify whether the Communist and Socialist Parties are also included in this category.

In conclusion, Ciganda says that Aranco's speech is in keeping with the government position.

The announcers add that on the diplomatic level, the ambassadors who attended the ceremony noted that General Aranco's speech was positive. In a recorded statement, U.S. Ambassador Thomas Aranda notes that "although it is very difficult to issue an opinion on the speech without previous analysis, I believe the speech was well-received. I believe that he expressed the government's willingness to restore a constitutional government."

Also in a recorded statement, the Spanish ambassador says that it was a very interesting speech. Although he notes that Spain will react favorably to the return of democracy in Uruguay, he declines to comment on Uruguayan domestic affairs.

ALL POLITICAL WEEKLIES ALLOWED TO CIRCULATE

PY030333 Montevideo Radio Carve in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] After being subjected to government censorship, the weeklies JAQUE and CORREO DE LOS VIERNES of the Batlle-led Independent Movement and of the Unity and Reform faction, respectively, have been allowed to circulate and will be sold tomorrow. The weekly ASAMBLEA has also been allowed to be sold. Therefore, all political weeklies have been allowed to circulate this week.

INAUGURAL SPEECH OF PRESIDENT LUSINCHI

PA021834 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 1542 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Inaugural speech of Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi at the Legislative Palace in Caracas -- live]

[Excerpts] The current Venezuela is at once a creation and a victim of a well-known phenomenon: the sudden explosion of easy and almost gratuitous wealth, exacerbated by a sudden increase in oil prices. This unexpected situation, which placed in our hands the possibility of immediately fulfilling great ambitions, unleashed great changes in our society and worsened nefarious tendencies toward squandering, misappropriation, and graft among our population. Along with the growth of these vices, which became more acute in the last few years, there arose the world oil market crisis. There was such an extreme drop in our fiscal revenues that it gave rise to a chronic, methodically disguised deficit which was [words indistinct], uncontrolled, and reckless. Our currency lost value. Our oil industry, generator of our prosperity, was strapped to meet ordinary spending requirements. It was deprived of its resources and also of its financial independence. What was supposed to be the cashbox of the Venezuelan people was broken. It had been established with surprising foresight at the very beginning of the past oil decade. The role of the Venezuelan Investment Fund changed from that of lender to that of a heavily committed investor. [applause] It was not in a position to fulfill the role of an institution helping to overcome serious economic and financial problems, as it was originally conceived. Finally, there came the need for recourse to a moratorium in the handling of the foreign debt and a virtual disavowal of the internal debt.

One of the most difficult tasks we will have to face is the national debt. I will face these tasks firmly and with moral concern for the good credit of our country. Venezuela will pay everything it owes. However, I believe this must be done without weakening the permanent work that all governments are obliged to do, especially mine which is closely linked with just and unsatisfied social aspirations. [applause]

We are not attributing to foreign banks the mentality of implacable creditors, such as those which exist in literature, but a modern mentality befitting those who know and manage international finances. In any event, in no way shall we accept settlement conditions which would hinder the nation's reasonable progress and threaten the people's already weakened condition. I am convinced that we and our creditors agree that the best debtor is a people working and producing, not a group exhausted by harsh sacrifices imposed on it. I repeat: Venezuela will pay. And I add: every single cent. We will learn from this costly and unforgettable lesson that has condemned us to years of penance.

In 1984, both the civilians and military are convinced that democracy is already a spontaneous and irreversible way of life. We have tested it, and it has survived. We know the weaknesses of democratic life, but we have never shared the often-repeated pessimistic opinion that this is the last opportunity for democracy, because we know very well that it is the only system capable of correcting itself, the only one capable of permitting and guaranteeing the participation of the citizens, to whom government authorities must subject themselves.

During my presidential campaign I noted that for the first time in our history more than 70 percent of the people are unfamiliar with the abuses of past dictatorship. Today's Venezuelans are very different from those at the beginning of the 19th century. Interpreting this new country represents the big challenge of this constitutional period.

We have consolidated political democracy, and now we face a new period in our history: the deepening of this rooted democracy and the construction of a completely democratic society where everyone will have rights and duties.

Political democracy was not a goal in itself for us. It was a planned phase in our search for social democracy. This is our current challenge, to which we will tirelessly dedicate our efforts. This is the background commitment: democracy, liberty, material well-being, and enjoyment of spiritual assets.

It is not a matter of seeking well-being through ceaseless public expenditures on reckless adventures. If a paternalistic state contributed to the deformation of society and to the debilitation of moral principles, the current crisis is serious enough to serve as a warning that correcting our way of life is more than a priority: It is a necessity.

There will be no alternative if efforts are made to separate the new political project from the ethical and moral principles befitting a democracy like the one we favor.

We will encourage a change in the consumption habits of the people so that we may replace detrimental consumption with the true satisfaction of basic consumption.

We are now entering a transition period, and in breaking away -- forced by circumstances, we could say -- from the days of illusions of an oil-producing country, days that filled most of the 20th century, we are prepared to face realistically and calmly a new and challenging Venezuelan era.

We have a state without controls, a state that sometimes commits abuses and at other times is abused. This is a very rich state which has suddenly found itself in trouble. [applause]

Deterioration in public administration and a disorderly and contradictory leadership are responsible for the state not being able adequately to fulfull its functions and for common citizens seeing state entities as obstacles to their activities.

The organization of state enterprises is a difficult job. The existence of over 300 decentralized public agencies alone indicates the state has reached levels it should never have reached, involving itself in matters of secondary importance which cannot be within its province. We propose to reform this, to consolidate management capacity and guarantee flexibility and dynamism.

During my campaign I proposed, and now I propose as president the concept of a social pact, which translates into deep, far-reaching commitments between workers and businessmen and between these groups and the government -- not only to overcome the crisis through the creation of a climate consistent with the emergency facing our country, but also, through the coordination of purposes and goals, to lead us to a balanced and just society, where distribution of wealth, less and less inequitable, will be a guarantee of stability and social harmony.

Health and nutrition will be essential bases of my efforts as head of the Venezuelan state, within the context of a coherent social policy involving education and culture in a most comprehensive concept. Education is a source of almost agonizing concern, not only because of the increasing quantity of resources which are allotted to it but because of the complexity of the reforms it must undergo, from the lowest grades to the university level. We will call on our most lucid minds to begin these reforms and will also appeal to the goodwill of all those who have responsibilities in connection with the education process. Our education is formally democratic, but this is not enough.

In a few days we will announce the realistic economic program we plan to adopt immediately, charting concrete objectives and goals to be evaluated at the end of 1985 in order to lead Venezuela toward economic recovery and consolidation of the social well-being of the entire population. The country has the necessary physical, human, and technical resources, but we need clarity in drafting policies, a broad joining of wills, and perseverence in enforcing decisions. The sacrifices and costs of the adjustments that will be indispensable to achieve recovery will be equitably apportioned. This presupposes not only asking for more from those who can give more, but a contribution from all Venezuelans at the same time.

The current situation affects negatively all Venezuelans to varying degrees. It compromises the country's future development and translates into collective despair and anxiety. The first step to overcome it will be to recover confidence, reaffirming the conviction that it will be possible to recover the country's dynamism and to advance securely toward more ambitious goals if we adopt coherent, rationally stable policies, and efficiently manage resources and institutions. We will avoid the blunders of the past by assimilating experience. We will not fall for the temptation to look back. The country as a whole must look to the future.

The general guidelines of our policy will be strictly framed within concepts of austerity and will contemplate measures to restrict, control, and reorient public spending, especially current spending, to adjust it to a lower level of fiscal income. This includes the implementation of streamlined policies in the economic and financial spheres; the review and reconsideration of investment programs; effective steps to promote national savings; incentives to reactivate the production structure; renegotiation of the foreign debt to restore the country's international creditworthiness and to normalize the country's financial situation; as well as steps to determine the amount of the internal debt and to establish the mechanisms required to refinance it. Strict controls on borrowing will become a priority issue.

One of the key aspects of my government's plan of action will be the impetus we will give to farming and agroindustrial production. There will be an essential effort in correcting the structural weakness of our process of economic development, in order to make it less dependent on oil activities, less vulnerable, and to make it independent of the influence of external factors.

One other characteristic of my administrative efforts will be to encourage the industrial sector to achieve reactivation within a strategy which will promote real generation of jobs, sound utilization of the existing industrial base, an increase in the national value, and access for our products to foreign markets.

We will give priority to all the production sectors that contribute to the creation of jobs to overcome the unemployment problem, which has reached alarming levels. We will support the recovery and strengthening of small- and medium-sized industries. We will support production activities that will make it possible, through replacement of imports, to make real foreign exchange savings and that will resolutely promote exports through direct incentives and simplification of procedures and requirements.

We will decisively promote exports through direct encouragement and a simplification of procedures and requirements. We will also encourage foreign investments that will contribute effectively with capital and technology, especially in new fields or in fields that will contribute to the opening of new markets.

My government will give special attention to the construction sector because it is an employment source and because it has a multiplying effect on other economic areas. We will emphasize solving the housing problem, which is a demand of many Venezuelans. We will give preferential treatment to programs of social interest.

Venezuela has experienced increased corruption, and we have condemned this. Society demands an end to corruption, which weakens the morale of the people and the state, decreases individual awareness, and in fact has become some sort of subculture that attacks and weakens the values of our people.

The root of this evil is the fact that for more than 50 years we have basically lived in defeat, not using the wealth we had. This fact has caused the necessary link between wealth and work -- which has been the making or the destruction of other nations.

Times are difficult and demanding throughout the world. We face big challenges. Peace is increasingly endangered. The international situation is characterized by confrontations, nuclear threats, conflicts, and violence in various regions of the world. To this we can add inequities in international economic relations.

This disturbing situation of uncertainty and continuous danger must not be the fate of mankind. The moment of rectifications cannot be postponed, and in this process of straightening the path the fundamental responsibilities lie in the hands of a few. This is a dramatic fact.

Venezuela is aware of its role in the world and of its potential to act. The government of this country is resolved to act tirelessly in favor of an international environment based on dialogue, negotiation, and understanding. We will adopt this position both individually and jointly with the conviction and moral strength of a nation with a peaceful and democratic tradition and a demonstrated sense of solidarity and international cooperation.

My government's foreign policy will be inspired by the permanent interests of Venezuela and the defense of national sovereignty. We will implement a consensus foreign policy in everything related to the vital interests of the country, and we will interpret the interests of the country as a whole.

We want to develop relations of friendship and cooperation with all states, without discrimination, based on mutual respect and reciprocity. Our traditions and our Constitution demand that we defend democratic order as the only, unrenounceable means of assuring the citizens' rights, and that we peacefully favor its expansion to all the nations of the world. The Constitution states this in its preamble. [applause]

I proclaim my nationalist, Bolivarian, Americanist, and integrationist character. We plan to implement a just policy toward our neighbor countries to find rational solutions to pending problems. We will use the mechanisms that the Geneva Agreement has established for solving controversies with regard to the old Essequibo-Guyana claim. In the specific case of brotherly Colombia, we will strive to find a formula that will contribute once and for all not only to solving existing differences but also bringing our people closer, which is fundamental and in line with the Bolivarian spirit that has traditionally inspired our fraternal relationship.

Effective solidarity with the Latin American countries is an obligation. We will do everything possible to contribute to a most united and coherent Latin America, prepared to face the great political and economic problems of the world so that it may play, as a region, an important, participative role.

Specific actions toward increasing rapprochement and positions of agreement toward other nations of the world will be the proper framework for carrying out, with a renewed Latin Americanist will, present and future efforts for a Latin America with its own independent personality, capable of solving its problems and dilemmas by itself, without foreign, distorting meddling, and in the best environment of pluralism and harmonious coexistence. This we will resolutely encourage.

In line with this position, we will follow events in Central America with particular interest, and we will see that Venezuela participates in every effort to achieve peace. Venezuela will always encourage liberty and democratic pluralism as the legitimate means of solving the area's conflicts and promoting its social and economic progress.

Toward the Caribbean countries -- with which we are united by close and varied links -- we will conduct a broad policy of rapprochement and cooperation that will assure frank and fruitful relations based on mutual understanding. The fate of the people of Central America and the Caribbean cannot be alien to us under any circumstances.

At this ceremony of so much democratic significance, I would like to point out the special satisfaction of all Venezuelans with the progressive strengthening of democracy in Latin America and with the possibility that all the people of the region will in the future be able to fully exercise the right to elect their own leaders in free elections.

The democratization process of Latin America is something to which we attribute the greatest importance. For this reason, we are pleased with the return of the great Argentine people to a legitimately democratic way of life.

We are following with hopeful interest the Ecuadoran (?election) process, which will culminate in May, thus reaffirming the institutionalization that President Hurtado has loyally led. [applause]

International economic relations pose problems of extraordinary magnitude. The economic crisis particularly affects developing countries, compromises their chances for achieving economic and social progress and well-being, and seriously hinders their political stability. In light of this, priority attention will be given to the strengthening and coherent handling of the outside factor of Venezuela's economy. This goal is closely linked to a reactivation of the national economy and to the other foreign policy objectives we will pursue. The maintenance and strengthening of OPEC's unity will be a permanent concern of my government.

We will promote Latin American integration and cooperation. We will promote the adjustment of the Andean Group to current imperatives through a determination to make it stronger and make it beneficial, both nationally and regionally. At a broader level of international economic relations, we will make the necessary efforts, in solidarity and cooperation with the Group of 77, to play an effective role in the adoption of all decisions affecting us and to reap benefits from the world economy to which we are entitled. The privileged position I have reached, thanks to the will of the nation's majority, is an appropriate place to restate the presidential duties. It is true that our country's historical tradition and political culture have given the president of the republic unique power, which has occasionally been linked to some of the most characteristic traits of autocracy amid the philosophy [oficio] of democracy.

That is why I intend, without detracting from the duties assigned to me by the Constitution and the law, to make the Presidency of the Republic an official position that identifies with the country's deep democratic stance. I am the president, and I am, therefore, ready to exercise the duties of chief executive. However, I contend that it is possible and, furthermore, necessary, to democratize the presidential duties. [applause]

We are a people with deep democratic convictions. Our people's advocacy of freedom and the vagaries in our history have removed privilege and have enshrined egalitarianism. This is the basis for our Armed Forces' convictions, which have become highly institutionalized after a quarter century. They have progressed along with the people and are linked with them and their destiny more than ever. As staunch defenders of national sovereignty and our interests as a country, they are both a stabilizing factor and are, as far as their intellectual progress and sound technical qualification will allow, in a position to contribute materially toward the nation's development. I intend to include them in this process. [applause]

Today I tell all the members of the Armed Forces that I will work for the Army's modernization, to adequately equip and train them, and will pay attention to substantially improving the Army's living conditions.

However, I hereby state -- upon my responsibility as president -- that this government will be a coherent one; it will be open to deliberations, to debates, and to decisions that will be made after consultations with the executive branch and the people. I will accept the responsibility for the decisions and see that they are enforced. I will not allow government actions to become a focus for contradictions among officials, whatever their rank. This attitude has only caused confusion for the country and the people. Venezuela has already suffered enough because of antagonism among authorities. As president of the republic, I will guarantee the coherency necessary to make and enforce decisions.

Gentlemen, we now face a new dimension in national coexistence. The days ahead will see changes, deep changes. These are days to fulfill the desires of our people. Therefore, a loyal confluence of wills is necessary to make this great project a reality. No one can be ignored. We are here to promote peaceful changes for our current situation. I ask all of you to join in a common effort.

Senators, Deputies, I know my background and that I must dedicate my efforts to the people, our noble and generous people.

We now begin the march. Onward, the Liberator awaits us. [applause]

LUSINCHI ISSUES DECREES APPOINTING OFFICIALS

New Cabinet Ministers

PA022208 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 1705 GMT 2 Feb 84

["Text" of Decree No 1 issued by the Presidential Office of the Republic of Venezuela on 2 February]

[Text] I, Jaime Lusinchi, president of the republic, acting in accordance with Clause 2 of Article 190 of the Constitution, hereby decree that:

Article 1: I accept the resignation submitted by the ministers today.

Article 2. The following citizens are appointed ministers:

Interior Affairs [Relaciones Interiores]: Octavio Lepage

Foreign Affairs: Isidro Morales Paul

Finance: Manuel Azpurua Arreaza

Defense: [Defensa] Army Division General Humberto Alvalde Alvarez

Development: Hector Hurtado

Education: Ruth Lerner de Almea

Health and Social Welfare: Luis Manuel Manzanilla

Agriculture and Livestock: Felipe Gomez Alvarez

Labor: Simon Antoni Pavan

Transport and Communications: Juan Pedro del Moral

Justice: Jose Manzo Gonzalez

Energy and Mines: Arturo Hernandez Grisanti

Environment and Natural Renewable Resources [Ambiente y Recursos Naturales Renovables]: Orlando Castejon

Urban Development: Rafael Martin Guedez

Information and Tourism: Armando Duran

Youth: Milena Sardi

Secretariat of the Presidency: Simon Alberto Consalvi

[Dated] Caracas, 2 February 1984, year 173 of independence and year 124 of federation

[Signed] Jaime Lusinchi

## Ministers of State

PA022300 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 1705 GMT 2 Feb 84

["Text" of Decree No 2 issued by the Presidential Office of the Republic of Venezuela on 2 February]

[Text] I, Jaime Lusinchi, president of the republic, in accordance with the second clause of Articles 190 and 194 of the Constitution, and with Article 3 of the Organic Law of the Central Government, hereby decree the following:

Only Article: The following citizens are appointed ministers of state:

Chief of the Central Coordination and Planning Office of the Presidency [Oficina Central de Coordinacion y Calificacion de la Presidencia de la Republica]: Luis Raul Matos Azocar

President of the Venezuelan Investment Fund: Carlos Rafael Silva

President of the National Culture Council [Consejo Nacional de la Cultura]: Ignacio Iribarren Borges

Science and Technology: Luis Carbonell

International Economic Affairs [Asuntos Economicos Internacionales]: Manuel Perez Guerrero

President of the Venezuelan Corporation of Guayana: Leopoldo Sucre (Figarella), who is also entrusted with coordinating the state-run enterprises under this corporation's jurisdiction.

[Dated] Caracas, 2 February 1984, year 173 of independence and 124 of federation

[Signed] Jaime Lusinchi

## Federal District Governor

PA022304 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 1705 GMT 2 Feb 84

["Text" of Decree No 3 issued by the Presidential Office of the Republic of Venezuela on 2 February]

[Text] I, Jaime Lusinchi, president of the republic, in accordance with Article 190, Clause No 17 of the Constitution, hereby decree:

Article 1. I accept the resignation that the governor of the federal district submitted today.

Article 2. I appoint Carmel Lauria (Lezer) as governor of the federal district.

[Dated] Caracas, 2 February 1984, year 173 of independence and 124 of federation

[Signed] Jaime Lusinchi

[Signed] Octavio Lepage, Minister of Interior Affairs

## National Security Secretary

PA022213 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 1705 GMT 2 Feb 84

["Text" of Decree No 4 issued by the Presidential Office of the Republic of Venezuela on 2 February]

[Text] I, Jaime Lusinchi, president of the republic, acting in accordance with Paragraph 18, Article 190 of the Constitution, and in accordance with Article 10 of the Security and Defense Organization Law, hereby decree that:

Only Article: I hereby appoint Vice Admiral Andres Brito Martinez to the post of secretary of the National Security and Defense Council [Consejo Nacional de Seguridad y Defensa].

[Dated] Caracas, 2 February 1984, year 173 of independence and year 124 of federation

[Signed] Jaime Lusinchi

[Signed] Defense Minister Humberto Alcalde Alvarez

[Signed] Simon Alberto Consalvi, Minister of the Secretariat of the Presidency

## State Governors

PA022239 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 1705 GMT 2 Feb 84

["Text" of Decree No 5 issued by the Presidential Office of the Republic of Venezuela on 2 February -- all names rendered in phonetics]

[Text] I, Jaime Lusinchi, president of the republic, in accordance with Paragraph 17, Article 190 of the Constitution, hereby decree:

Article 1: I accept the resignations presented on this date from the governors of the states and federal territories of the Republic.

Article 2: I appoint Juan Medina Lugo as governor of Anzoategui State, Euclides Martinez as governor of Apure State, Jose Rafael Galindez Castillo as governor of Aragua State, Pastor Salazar Rondon as governor of Barinas State, Edgar Valle Valle as governor of Bolivar State, Jose Ignacio Acevedo Ledesma as governor of Carabobo State, Federico Reyes Pereira as governor of Cojedes State, Pedro Guillermo De Leon as governor of Falcon State, Rafael Ledesma Martinez as governor of Guarico State, Domingo Perera Riera as governor of Lara State, William Davila as governor Merida State, Miguel Garcia Macle as governor of Miranda State, Pedro Cabello Toledo as governor of Monagas State, Jesus Perez Salazar as governor of Nueva Esparta State, Lucia Barrios de Miraglia as governor of Portuguesa State, Fidel Alfonso Rios as governor of Sucre State, Luisa Teresa Pacheco de Chacon as governor of Tachira State, Rodolfo Berrio Gonzalez as governor of Trujillo State, Felix Guevara Iglesia as governor of Yaracuy State, Angel Zambrano as governor of Zulia State, Rumeno Armas Salazar as governor of the Federal Territory of Amazonas, and Manuel Gomez Rosas as governor of the Federal Territory of Delta Amacuro.

[Dated] Caracas, 2 February 1984, year 173 of independence and 124 of federation

[Signed] Jaime Lusinchi

[Signed] Octavio Lepage, Minister of Interior Relations

PRESIDENT'S SIGN DECLARATION SUPPORTING CONTADORA

PA030334 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0043 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas, 2 Feb (DPA) -- The presidents of seven Latin American countries, who are in Caracas for the inauguration ceremony of Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi, will sign a joint declaration tomorrow supporting the peace negotiations for Central America being carried out by the Contadora Group.

The Contadora Group is composed of high-level official representatives from Panama, Colombia, Mexico, and Venezuela.

The declaration, to be signed at noon Friday, advocates the revitalization of democratic systems on the continent, an increase in the exchange of inter-regional trade, and the inclusion of the idea of ideological pluralism.

The declaration will be signed by the following: Colombian President Belisario Betancur, Dominican Republic President Salvador Jorge Blanco, Nicaraguan Commander Daniel Ortega Saavedra; Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge, Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo, and Panamanian President Ricardo de la Espriella.

Tonight it was announced here that it is likely that the document will also be signed by Dominican President Clarence Henry Augustas Seignoret and Felipe Gonzalez, prime minister of Spain.

It was also announced that the presidents of Argentina and Colombia will meet again next Saturday in Bogota, where they will sign a joint declaration reaffirming these same points, following discussions on bilateral topics.

USSR SENDS CONGRATULATORY NOTE TO LUSINCHI

PA021915 Caracas Domestic Service in Spanish 1352 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] The USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium has congratulated President-elect Jaime Lusinchi. The note was delivered to Dr Lusinchi by USSR Ambassador Vayno Iosifovich Vyalyas at the president-elect's office.

The telegram reads as follows:

Your Excellency Dr Jaime Lusinchi, Caracas:

Please accept our warm congratulations and best wishes on your election to the Presidency of the Republic of Venezuela. We feel certain that the friendship and cooperation that exists between the Soviet Union and Venezuela will continue henceforth for the good of our countries' peoples and in the interest of the consolidation of peace and international security.

USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium

Moscow, Kremlin

REPORTAGE ON ARGENTINE PRESIDENT'S ACTIVITIES

Interviewed by EL NACIONAL

PY021501 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 1618 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas, 1 Feb (TELAM) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin has said that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is engaged in a strange political game that is

like a long-distance conversation. He also ruled out a pact among Argentina, the United States, and South Africa in connection with the South Atlantic area, and he criticized the Kissinger report, because it reiterated the possibility of intervention in Nicaragua.

In an exclusive interview granted to the local morning newspaper EL NACIONAL and published shortly before his arrival in Caracas to attend President Jaime Lusinchi's inauguration, Alfonsin said: I think of a pact, but from the Latin American standpoint. Even more, I believe that we should speak of the Latin American Atlantic, instead of calling it the South Atlantic. I am thinking of the South American countries with Atlantic coastlines, from Venezuela to Argentina, with their own common strategy for the region.

Raul Alfonsin commented only briefly on the problems that he inherited from the military dictatorship and that he has had to cope with in his first 100 days as president: "I began dealing with all of them at the same time, and now I must not lose sight of any one of them," he said.

In response to a question from Argentine reporter Rogelio Garcia Lupo about the eventual creation of SATO [South Atlantic Treaty Organization] for the defense of the South Atlantic -- a matter that is connected with the Malvinas issue -- Alfonsin said: "You understand that British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is engaged in a strange political game that is like a long-distance conversation. I have answered Mrs Thatcher's telegram congratulating me. She then said that the exclusion zone might be ended, and I replied that it would be an important step, although there is the problem of the fortification of the islands."

He said that the British defense minister later admitted that the fortification of the Malvinas has actually prevented the British from fulfilling their commitments to NATO. "I then said that this was also an important change, because the initial position had been that it was essential to consider the Malvinas within the NATO framework; but I would rather say they should be considered within the framework of SATO or, even better, of a regional pact." he remarked.

"Just imagine," he went on, "what a NATO base in the Malvinas would mean. The USSR would immediately establish a similar base in Angola. Therefore, as Rodolfo Terragno put it a short time ago, the South Atlantic would turn into another Indian Ocean. This is not good for anybody, not even for the United States, because its oil supply routes cross the South Atlantic. The handling of the Latin American Atlantic is a task to be undertaken exclusively by Latin Americans."

Concerning the Central American situation, Alfonsin referred to the so-called Kissinger report, stressing that the important thing is to find a way to solve the problem as soon as possible. In his opinion, it must first be ascertained whether the United States is willing to permit a democratic socialist regime. It is important to determine whether the United States would regard a progressive socialist government -- which would for example, implement the socialization of the banking system or a thorough land reform -- as compatible with U.S. strategy.

"The important thing," he pointed out, "is that such a government must be respected, and the Kissinger report has in no way considered this possiblity. On the contrary, it has reiterated the possibility of intervention. Under these circumstances, we should obtain very clear indications of the U.S. position in this regard. In addition, other Latin American countries like those of the Contadora Group would also act as guarantors of the pacification process in Central America, so that it may develop in keeping with the particular characteristics of each nation. I believe that no leader in the Americas, or for that matter in any other part of the world, would provoke a holocaust of their own people, driven by what could be termed ideological fanaticism.

"We uphold," he went on, "the principles of nonintervention and self-determination of nations. But we also want democratic pluralism for Central America, and we believe that such pluralism must be built upon the goals that we, as individual countries and as a region, are able to promote. We must prevent Latin America from becoming a battlefield for the superpowers.

In the final part of the interview, Alfonsin referred to Argentine-Venezuelan relations, remarking that the two countries are determined to promote political and economic cooperation.

He stressed that in recent years the results of the efforts made in this regard did not yield the results that the two nations had expected. The differences in the systems of government, which were based on different and frequently opposing principles, along with other difficulties, may have hindered that cooperation. Nowadays it is even more urgent to promote it.

"But my visit to attend President Lusinchi's inauguration," he explained, "a visit that will be very short, will serve only to open the dialogue and set up a tentative schedule. Once the government has been installed, the idea is to implement that spirit of Argentine-Venezuelan cooperation."

He added that the Foreign Ministry will be in charge of that coordinating mission, and that in no longer than a month's time the Argentine Government will be able to submit concrete political, economic, and technological cooperation proposals to the Venezuelan Government.

Alfonsin admitted the possibility that bilateral cooperation may include the nuclear area. He said: "We are in a stage of the uranium enrichment technology in which we are totally capable of producing our own nuclear fuel. What has also been made clear is that our nuclear technology is strongly directed toward peaceful uses."

"Therefore," he went on, "within the framwork of peaceful cooperation, assistance in this area can raise no suspicion. I believe that a joint commission should study the way of implementing mutual technical cooperation in the area of hydrocarbons and Argentine cooperation in the nuclear area."

Alfonsin concluded by making an overall evaluation of Argentine-Venezuelan relations. The Argentine president said that bilateral relations will clearly be beneficial to the two countries, with a view toward promoting exchange on the basis of compensation, so that trade may be promoted beyond its traditional levels. "It will be necessary," he went on, "to create proper financial mechanisms that should supplement the bilateral agreement on payments that is presently in force."

He concluded by saying that "the organization of Venezuelan-Argentine relations should be an example in the sense that they should aim at securing benefits in keeping with the Bolivarian conception, that is, with a view toward integration. The same pattern might then be adopted by other Latin American countries that are implementing a thorough revision of every aspect of their national life, ranging from the economic to the political area, with countries offering that example as soon as possible to encourage other nations to do the same."

## Discusses Falklands Issue

PY022345 Paris AFP in Spanish 2317 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas, 2 Feb (AFP) -- Argentine President Raul Alfonsin said here today that in view of Great Britain's refusal to seek a peaceful solution to the Malvinas Islands situation, we will continue [to work] with the UN resolutions.

Alfonsin, who arrived in Caracas yesterday to attend the inauguration ceremony of the new Venezuelan president, Jaime Lusinchi, was asked during a press conference that was held on Wednesday about his country's position in the Malvinas case.

The Argentine chief of state demanded three measures of good faith from London: The elimination of the exclusion zone; an end to the fortification of the archipelago; and the sending of a peace force to the Malvinas that would be under UN control.

Moreover, it was learned today in Caracas that at the same time that Alfonsin was telling the journalists about these measures, Buenos Aires newspapers published an official communique containing the same proposals.

At approximately noon the government of Great Britain's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher rejected the Argentine proposals for a solution.

President Alfonsin, when leaving a luncheon that he had with the Venezuelan president and the rest of his Latin American colleagues, was asked about the British response and, slightly concerned, he answered that in view of that refusal, we will have to follow the channels of advice given by the United Nations.

While Alfonsin answered that question in a laconic way, U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, during a press conference that was held in a Caracas hotel, made the following statement about the Malvinas:

We have supported the UN resolutions and the call that was made by the OAS for a peaceful negotiated solution to many problems, including the problem of the Malvinas. That is our position and we hope the parties will arrive at that solution.

## Addresses Fellow Argentines

PY030246 Buenos Aires Argentine Televisora Color Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Speech by Argentine President Raul Alfonsin in Caracas addressing Argentine residents in Venezuela; date and place not given -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [In progress] Your presence is also very important, because you should give testimony to the good treatment that you have received in Venezuela [shouts of "Long live Venezuela!" applause] This will undoubtedly contribute to enhancing one of the basic objectives of our government, namely, to work for Latin American integration. [applause] It will also encourage other voices in our fatherland to rise and ask for peace among Latin American nations. In this country, where there are so many friends who live in exile, where there are so many friends from different Latin American countries, you will surely have come to understand this devotion to the Latin American fatherland.

It is necessary to [words indistinct] [applause] so that if there still exists a European who arrogantly regards our Latin American brothers [shouts, applause] may he once and for all become aware of the situation and thus make his own contribution to our effort, the only effort that will allow (?us) to shake off dependency. We shall thus, once and for all, recover our national and regional identity, and we shall also know that the banners that we must wave are our national and regional banners and not those offered by others as part of the game of the superpowers, who are in no way interested in our nations' needs for independence. [applause] [words indistinct] I thank you for this meeting, for this moving event. We need this sort of event, because it spurs our feelings. We must shake and overflow with emotion, to be better patriots every day and to cast aside everything other than the need to defend the interest of our people. Therefore, all of us together, singing the songs of all parties, flying the flags of all parties, shall participate in this lay procession, flying a single flag, the Argentine flag [applause] [words indistinct].

Meets With Shultz

PY030319 Buenos Aires DYN in Spanish 0130 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Text] Caracas, 2 Feb (DYN) -- The possibility of provoking a fundamental turn-about in the handling of the Malvinas dispute between Argentina and Great Britain and a search for solutions which would allow Buenos Aires to pay back its large foreign debt to the Western banking sector were the basic objectives of the "summit" meetings that President Raul Alfonsin held here today with his Spanish counterpart, Felipe Gonzalez, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

Alfonsin had a very busy agenda today which included a working breakfast with Dominican President Salvador Jorge Blanco, an interview with Bolivian President Hernan Siles Zuazo, a meeting with Felipe Gonzalez and another with George Shultz, and finally in the evening a meeting with Nicaragua's Daniel Ortega.

According to spokesmen of the Argentine delegation, the Malvinas issue as well as the problem of the foreign debt were the main subjects of discussion during the meeting held this afternoon between Alfonsin and the U.S. secretary of state.

Argentine Foreign Minister Dante Caputo was present at all these meetings, which were held in the Argentine President's private suite in the luxurious "Caracas Hilton" Hotel. Caputo, who was also present at the meeting held in the evening with Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, admitted to the media that "the objective of unlocking the negotiations with Great Britain has become a priority issue in Argentina's foreign policy."

In his statements to the media, Caputo pointed out that, from his point of view, the current stance of Margaret Thatcher's government is "incomprehensible" and that Argentina, on the contrary, is willing to contribute with all its "will and imagination" to arrive at negotiations that will allow the diplomatic and military situation to be returned to what it was on 1 April 1982.

After the surprising proposal made by Alfonsin yesterday to seek the United Nation's guarantees, even through the presence on the islands of "some peacekeeping organ" of the international organization in order to allow the demilitarization of the zone, the news of the British rejection to the proposal did not cause the Argentine delegation any great surprise.

In an informal manner the Argentine representatives continued to point out that their government's stance was to make as many proposals as necessary, even aware of the predictable British rejection, in order to force the subject to be handled again within the United Nations so that from within the United Nations a similar decision, to that of 1965, which forced the British to carry out direct negotiations with Buenos Aires, could be issued.

Today this Argentine position received unexpected and important indirect support from U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz who, when he was consulted about the Argentine-British dispute over the Malvinas, pointed out that his country supports "a negotiated solution" to the controversy.

After this statement it was impossible to get the U.S. secretary of state to make any other statement. To persistent attempts, Shultz replied: "You may phrase your question however you like, but my answer will always be the same, that we support a negotiated solution."

It was learned that the references made on this subject during the interview Alfonsin held with Shultz were focused on the Argentine concern over the presence, a few miles from its coastline on the Atlantic, of a strong British military unit that completely upsets the military equilibrium in the region.

In this respect, the Argentine president warned Shultz about his concern that NATO's presence in the South Atlantic could force the Soviet Union to reply by placing a similar type of military presence on the coast of Africa, thus turning this part of the world into a powder keg similar to the one that exists in the Indian Ocean.

According to the Argentine Government's opinion, only the strengthening of peace in the American region can allow its economic and political processes to prosper and, therefore, Alfonsin urged the Americans to play a moderating role in Central America.

President Alfonsin also discussed that subject of the external debt in the same manner because, in his opinion, the open-handed way that capital, which was not used for development, has been granted to the Latin American nations can today be, starting with the burden that repayment imposes, a destabilizing factor in the area.

Very little has been learned about the concrete answers that Shultz gave to these concerns, but it is believed that the concerns have been submitted to the State Department to be added to the analysis on Latin American problems that is being carried out, and which also includes the tour that Shultz started here and which will continue in Brazil and Grenada.

Many of the advisers that are accompanying Shultz also participated in the meeting with Alfonsin, and it has been learned that one of the advisers addressed concrete questions to the Argentine president on matters pertaining to nuclear development.

The Argentine spokesmen were more explicit about the results that were obtained during the meeting with Gonzalez, because in this case they reported about a concrete agreement for creating new incentives that will allow the expansion of bilateral relations.

It was said that another meeting between Foreign Ministers Dante Caputo and Hernando Moran, to last for 2 or 3 days, was agreed upon.

Concrete formulas for economic cooperation could be defined during this meeting, in accordance with what has been discussed by Alfonsin and Gonzalez, an agreement on the strategy to be used at the United Nations, especially regarding the mutual support to be given by the two nations in their conflicts with the United Kingdom -- Malvinas and Gibraltar.

With the Dominican president it was agreed to create two mixed commissions to increase economic and cultural relations between the two countries. The talk with Siles Zuazo again took the path of how Argentina will politically and economically support the Altiplano democracy.

Finally, Alfonsin's very tight agenda, comparable only to that of Shultz, included a last-minute meeting with the Sandinist leader Daniel Ortega in which the position that Buenos Aires has maintained up to now was reviewed, a position that supports the Contadora Group's negotiations.

Meets With Nicaragua's Ortega

PY031205 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0045 GMT 3 Feb 84

[Excerpts] Caracas, Venezuela, 2 Feb (NA) -- Tonight President Raul Alfonsin met unexpectedly with Nicaraguan Junta Coordinator Daniel Ortega and reiterated the Argentine Government's support of the Contadora Group's efforts to solve the Central American problems.

Foreign Minister Dante Caputo has said that President Alfonsin told Ortega that it was necessary "to work out a negotiated solution" through the offices of the Latin American countries forming the Contadora Group.

Tonight's meeting was the second the Argentine President has held with the Nicaraguan junta coordinator, whom he first met in Buenos Aires 3 days after his inauguration on 10 December 1983.

Alfonsin's meeting with Ortega took place shortly after the Argentine president meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz.

LUSINCHI, NICARAGUA'S ORTEGA ADDRESS RALLY

PA022145 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The Reagan administration's policy of military strength remains constant despite the Contadora Group's peace efforts, Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Nicaraguan Government Junta, said after meeting with Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi last night at the Caracas Atheneum.

The "Extra" newscast now presents part of Commander Daniel Ortega's address to the Venezuelan people at a crowded rally at which slogans of support for and solidarity with the Nicaraguan Government were chanted:

[Begin Ortega recording] [Crowd chants slogans] If we were asked where Bolivar was born, we would immediately answer that he was born in Latin America. [applause; crowd chants slogans] And if we were asked where Sandino was born, we would also say: in Latin America. [applause]

We cannot forget the Venezuelan people's solidarity. It has been a true constant for the Nicaraguan people; it has been continuous and firm. Today we ratify and deepen the solidarity that offered shelter in Venezuela to leaders of the revolution, to Carlos Fonseca, the founder of the FSLN, and to other founding members of the FSLN, including Silvio Mayorga.

We cannot forget the solidarity that has been offered by Venezuelans: by Ibero Pedro and Maria Teresa [not further identified] and by Venezuelan intellectuals and workers. The Nicaraguan revolution feels that it is committed not only to the Nicaraguan people but to the Venezuelan people as well, meaning that it feels committed to the peoples of Latin America.

This is the reason for our firm stand in the face of the U.S. assaults. This is the reason for our unwavering decision not to surrender (?in matters of) principle. It is one thing to hold talks and to find political solutions to the problems that plague Central America, but it is another to capitulate. The terms capitulation and surrender to not exist in Nicaragua. [applause]

We must say that the peoples' permanent, continuous struggle has yielded fruit on this continent. There is no other way to explain the increasingly strong feeling of Latin American unity that prompts our peoples' actions, and what we can say today also moves most of the Latin American governments to action: to an increasingly united action reflecting Latin America's purposes. In the face of political, social, and economic problems, could anyone with community spirit in Latin America -- including peoples, governments, political parties, liberation movements, and progressive revolutionary forces -- considering the prevailing feelings in Central America in favor of peace and against intervention -- doubt that the intervention that is taking place in Central America, in El Salvador, and in Nicaragua is anything but a general intervention in Latin America? [end recording]

For his part, Jaime Lusinchi, in a message of affection and friendship for Nicaragua, said that the Venezuelans are committed to the consolidation of Nicaragua's democratization process and to the achievement of peace in the region.

Venezuela has always been willing to help Nicaragua and any other people who love peace and democracy, Lusinchi said:

[Begin Lusinchi recording] We have a message of affection and friendship for Nicaragua. A few minutes ago, I was saying to Commander Ortega that Nicaragua has always been a country of great interest to us. It must be because of Venezuela's dislike [antipatia], or rather liking [simpatia], for the Nicaraguan regime that it has followed developments there closely. It can be said that Somoza was a personal enemy of Venezuela's democracy, and we never remained aloof in regard to the Nicaraguan people's wish to oust him from power, as eventually happened.

That is why all Venezuelans are now intent on seeing the Nicaraguan democratization process consolidated and on seeing Nicaragua attain the peace, tranquillity, and progress it deserves. We have also made a commitment to secure a (?negotiated) solution for Central America and the democratic stability and peace that the area's countries need. That is why we have made a commitment to the peace process.

The visit by Commander Ortega and the distinguished minister who has accompanied him to Venezuela is an opportunity for us to talk about the Central American and Caribbean crisis, which so greatly concerns us, and to discuss matters of mutual interest to Nicaragua and Venezuela. We plan to cooperate with and to help Nicaragua, with the respectful feeling of Latin Americanism with which Venezuela has always been willing to help Nicaragua and all peoples who love peace and democracy. [end recording] |

NOTIMEX INTERVIEWS HONDURAN FOREIGN SECRETARY

FL021946 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1645 GMT 2 Feb 84

[By special reporter Mario Luis Altuzar]

[Text] Caracas, 2 Feb (NOTIMEX) -- Speaking here today, Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica defended his country's right to have technical training centers and noted that the Kissinger report might be complementary to the Contadora Group efforts.

Paz Barnica, interviewed by NOTIMEX, is here to attend the ceremonies accompanying the change of command from Luis Herrera Campins to Jaime Lusinchi being held today with the participation of 16 chiefs of state and delegations from 86 countries.

Paz Barnica dismissed a report that a U.S. military base will be installed in Honduras. He said: We might have Honduran technical training centers, but not a foreign base from the United States or any other country.

In addition, he said that the report issued by the U.S. Bipartisan Commission on Central America, headed by Henry Kissinger, might be complementary to the action of the Contadora Group, made up of Mexico, Venezuela, Panama, and Colombia.

He said that the Contadora Group efforts have been very positive, because they are helping in the promotion of a climate of detente and providing the necessary conditions for comprehensive negotiations that will lead to a general treaty for peace, cooperation, security, and friendship among the five Central American countries.

He stressed that the Committee of Support for the Economic and Social Development of Central America [Comite de Apoyo para el Desarrollo Economico y Social de Centroamerica -- CADESCA] -- which must act as prescribed in the document approved in Panama on 8 September, within the Contadora Group framework -- will also play an important role.

Paz Barnica also ruled out the possibility of a foreign military invasion in Central America, and added that a stable and lasting peace can be achieved with the cooperation and solidarity of Latin American governments such as those which make up the Contadora Group.

He also emphasized that Honduras opposes aggression or intervention and that his country has never attacked anyone but has been the victim of aggressors in the past. We repudiate any aggression against any country, he noted.

Asked about the Honduran-U.S. military maneuvers underway in his country and in Central American waters, Paz Barnica said that the people have the right to express their self-determination through votes, that is, in free elections, but he did not refer specifically to the military exercises.

He deplored the fact that Nicaragua has been warning of a future invasion over the past 2 years. He concluded by saying that the Central American governments are mature enough to solve, through their own efforts, the problems prevailing in the region.

NEWS AGENCY SERVILATIN ESTABLISHED IN CARACAS

PA021444 Caracas EL NACIONAL in Spanish 23 Jan 84 C-8

[Text] A new international news agency, whose main office will be in Caracas, will begin operating next week. The name of the agency is SERVILATIN, and it will be directed by newsman Miguel Conde.

According to its spokesman, the agency will devote special attention to events in Latin America, especially in Central America and the Caribbean.

The agency's efforts will be to somehow counterbalance the influence of international interests in the region, whose agencies monopolize the selection, processing, and dissemination of information. SERVILATIN will gear its news service to the real needs of the Latin American community, particularly the countries of Central America and the Caribbean.

## COSTA RICA

### MONGE APPEALS TO REAGAN ON BEHALF OF LOCAL CUBANS

PA030422 San Jose LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 27 Jan 84 p 4

[Text] Costa Rican President Luis Alberto Monge has sent a message to U.S. President Ronald Reagan dealing with the problem involving the 2,300 Cubans who arrived in Costa Rica "in transit" to the United States.

The Cubans were allowed to leave Castro's island when the United States promised to admit them because they had relatives in cities like Miami, New York, Los Angeles, Washington, D.C., etc.

Monge has asked President Reagan to help these Cubans, who left their country with the hope of joining their relatives. The 2,300 Cubans are living in Costa Rica, spending the money that their relatives send from the United States, but they have expressed their desire to "join their fathers, mothers, brothers, and children in the North."

When Kissinger came to Costa Rica, the group delivered a letter to the former secretary of state. Some days ago they met with Monge, and he has contacted Reagan directly.

### PVP EXPELS 4 MEMBERS; MORA RESIGNS AS PRESIDENT

PA021411 San Jose LA NACION in Spanish 22 Jan 84 p 4-A

[Report by Victor Hugo Vargas]

[Text] The Popular Vanguard Party, PVP, Central Committee, controlled by Humberto Vargas Carbonell and Arnoldo Ferreto, have unanimously agreed to expel from its ranks. Under Secretary General Eduardo Mora Valverde, Jose Merino, Lenin Chacon, and Cesar Solano. All four were Central Committee members.

In addition, Manuel Mora Valverde's resignation as president of the PVP was accepted. Mora had declined the appointment, which was approved last December, until the policy changes he had denounced were clarified.

Humberto Vargas Carbonell, new PVP secretary general who replaces Manuel Mora, said: "They were expelled because they were acting against the party's unity and because of their aim to usurp Central Committee properties such as the printing shop, the name of its newspaper, and some of the party's offices."

No statements could be obtained yesterday from those expelled. Manuel Mora is in the southern part of the country, his brother Eduardo is in Guanacaste, Merino is in Limon, and Solano and Chacon were also out of the capital.

Solano was replaced last week as secretary general of the Vanguardist Youth, an action he termed illegal.

Vargas announced that Mora, Chacon, Merino, and Solano "are no longer members of the party and therefore cannot act on its behalf." He added that the resolution will bring unity, explaining that "the measure was not taken as a reprisal, nor to hurt anyone, but to defend the party."

In regard to Manuel Mora, Vargas Carbonell said that since he had insisted on resigning, it was accepted, but that he is still a member of the Political Commission, the Central Committee, and directorate posts.

Meanwhile, the PVP Central Committee issued a communique announcing that Oscar Madrid Jimenez had been appointed under secretary general.

Regarding the explusions, the Central Committee said that "in an unbounded effort to impose their whims they had resorted to the bourgeoisie news media to spread lies about the party and its leaders which endangered the organization's legal status and security."

"Along the same line, they made public statements, such as those made by Eduardo Mora, which clearly showed a desire to appear to the bourgeoisie as a group posing no threat to their privileges and insinuating that the threat was within the party, which represents an invitation for reprisal against the PVP," the Central Committee says.

The four members who were expelled attended a rally on Monday, 9 January, in honor of Manuel Mora at Maceo Square, Los Angeles District, in this capital. Lenin Chacon, secretary general of the San Jose PVP Sectional Committee, was one of the organizers of the rally.

## EL SALVADOR

### FMLN SABOTAGE CAUSES NORTHERN POWER OUTAGES

PA030430 Paris AFP in Spanish 1933 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] San Salvador, 2 Feb (AFP) -- At least five powerline posts were destroyed early this morning along the main northern highway, official Salvadoran sources have reported.

The sabotage took place at kilometers 19 and 40 on the same highway, which leads to the north of the country, where FMLN members constantly carry out similar actions.

This time, as on most occasions, Chalatenango Department and some towns in the northern part of San Salvador Department were left without electricity.

Large areas of San Salvador were also without electricity for more that 1 hour because of repairs being carried out at the San Antonio Abad Substation, where an insulator was changed, a San Salvador Electric Company spokesman reported.

The spokesman dismissed the possibility of sabotage and denied rumors that circulated early this morning about this, as a result of a reported dynamite explosion.

Meanwhile, the FMLN has announced over clandestine radio stations that it will increase its sabotage campaign involving electric power service.

### VENCEREMOS VIEWS 'REAL MEANING' OF SHULTZ VISIT

PA021240 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] An end to negotiated solutions and an increase in the aggressive plans of the U.S. imperialist government against the Salvadoran people is the real meaning of the message delivered by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during his stay in our country. Shultz met with Alvaro Magana, Foreign Minister Chavez Mena, General Vides Casanova, and the six candidates for the electoral farce in an attempt to achieve an atmosphere of harmony among the high-ranking government sectors currently submerged in a serious political and military crisis.

At the conclusion of his visit the high-ranking U.S. imperialist official and Foreign Minister Chavez Mena issued a joint communique stressing the so-called mutual interests of the two countries, underscoring that one of the common objectives of the two governments is the termination of communist subversion. By this they mean the extermination of the Salvadoran people up in arms.

Shultz cynically condemned the death squads specifically while conversing with Roberto D'Aubuisson, the indisputable leader of the death squads and Monsignor Romero's murderer. Shultz also spoke of the alliance among what he described as democracies -- that is the Honduran, Guatemalan, and Salvadoran dictatorships -- to stop the social progress in Central America.

The joint communique endorsed by Shultz and Chavez Mena definitely closes the doors to a negotiated political solution to the conflict in our country and opts instead for a military solution.

Therefore, an end to negotiated solutions and an increase in the aggressive plans of the U.S. imperialist government against the Salvadoran people was the real meaning of the message delivered by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz during his stay in our country.

## GUATEMALA

### THREAT TO BELIZE BY HELICOPTER PARTS SALE DENIED

PA022157 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Colonel Pablo Nuila Hub, a government spokesman, said today that the Guatemalan Army will not invade Belize. He was replying to a British Foreign Secretariat statement opposing the U.S. sale of military helicopter parts to Guatemala.

Reports from London said the British Government fears that Guatemala is preparing an alleged invasion of Belize, which would threaten the British garrison there of more than 1,800 troops.

Nuila Hub said: Guatemala is not an aggressive country. It has always pursued a genuine peaceable tradition and it advocates dialogue for the resolution of various problems.

It can be surmised from reports coming from London that U.S. President Ronald Reagan disregarded an express request from the British Government and authorized the sale of spare parts to Guatemala, which will pay for them in foreign exchange.

### FCD CANDIDATE OUTLINES PARTY PLATFORM

PA021930 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Jorge Gonzalez del Valle, former Bank of Guatemala president, current president of the Center for Latin American Monetary Studies, and a candidate for the presidential nomination of the Civic Democratic Front [Frente Civico Democratico -- FCD], has revealed a political-ideological platform based on the philosophy of the FCD, which is made up of new faces.

The first point of the platform proposes a peace plan for the country in which all political and nonpolitical ideologies committed to ending violence would take part.

The FCD calls for the creation of a national human rights commission as part of the country's new constitution. It also calls for the creation of constitutional guarantees of food, education, health, work, and social security.

In addition, the FCD asks for the creation of a comptroller's office to ensure proper application of government budgets, to supervise state contracts, and to ensure the probity of public officials. The FCD seeks a series of programs aimed at reactivating the country's economy and promoting national industry. It also contemplates programs directed at municipalities and departments in order to decentralize and promote the countryside's productive capacity.

Finally, the party proposes a program to solve the problem of Belize -- a program it says should be approved for Guatemala's benefit.

ORPA ATTACK ON PRESIDENTIAL PALACE ALLEGED

PA030343 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Jan 84 p 2

[Text] Guatemala (ENFOPRENSA) -- A large search and control operation was begun in Guatemala City after the Revolutionary Organization of the People in Arms (ORPA), attacked the Presidential Palace with light artillery early Thursday morning.

Troops, many traveling in armored personnel carriers, patrolled the city streets intermittently while national guardsmen conducted searches. Heavily armed policewomen also participated in this search operation.

Leonel Sisniega Otero, an ultrarightist political leader, commented on the rebel action by saying that "an attack on the Presidential Palace is no laughing matter."

Lieutenant Colonel Djalma Dominguez, a spokesman for the Guatemalan Army, said "there was no attack on the Presidential Palace. The attack was directed at neighboring houses." However, Telepress, a television newscast, showed scenes of the rebel action, while witnesses reported that the troops guarding the Presidential Palace damaged several houses, businesses, and cars in the area in repelling the attack.

National police sources stated that only property damage was reported. However, spokesmen for ORPA -- one of the four organizations that make up the Guatemalan National Revolutionary Unity, URNG -- declared that the Army suffered casualties.

OFFICER REPORTS CASUALTIES FROM 1983 CLASHES

PA021950 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Colonel Edgar Djalma Dominguez, the Guatemalan Army chief of public relations, said today that clashes between guerrilla and Army forces resulted in some 700 deaths and more than 100 injuries in 1983.

Most of the clashes took place in the northwest and, according to the Army spokesman, of the total number of deaths, 510 were guerrillas, 8 officers, 108 soldiers, 34 members of the civil self-defense patrols, and 70 civilians.

Regarding the number of injuries, Col Djalma Dominguez said that 98 were soldiers, 2 officers, 7 members of the civil self-defense patrols, 18 civilians, and 1 a military commissioner.

## HONDURAS

### ARMY COLONEL TO BE EXPELLED, DISCIPLINED

PA021247 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 1 Feb 84 p 3

[Excerpt] San Esteban Olancho -- The Armed Forces have not yet decided the future of Colonel Danilo Ferrera Suazo, who furnished information which the High Command considered false, according to a statement made here today by General Gustavo Alvarez Martinez.

"A decision will have to be made as to his future; you will be informed in due time," Alvarez Martinez said on Monday, while observing the final phase of the "Big Pine II" exercises.

According to a report published by EL HERALDO on 14 January, "Col Ferrera Suazo will be removed from his post as commander of the 110th Brigade, with jurisdiction in the country's central-eastern region."

EL HERALDO, quoting High Command sources, also reported that Ferrera Suazo will subsequently be expelled from the Armed Forces.

Col Ferrera Suazo contradicted official reports when he told THE WASHINGTON POST that he had received previous notice about the flight commanded by U.S. Pilot Jeffrey Schwab, who was killed by Sandinists after he had allegedly violated Nicaraguan airspace.

Last week Colonel Cesar Elvir Sierra, spokesman for the Armed Forces, said that Ferrera Suazo was at the disposal of the High Command. Gen Alvarez said that the Armed Forces will issue an official report on the subject soon.

### MEDIA INDEPENDENCE URGED; GOVERNMENT POLICIES HIT

PA030309 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Rodrigo Wong Arevalo commentary]

[Excerpts] Our constitutional and democratic government has given us a small sample this week of the extent of totalitarian control over the information media. Here is an example to show our listeners what sort of insignificant things the government considers great achievements during its first 2 years in power: The main radio stations of the country were kept in network for 4 mornings, during the hours the Honduran people listen to the radio for the news.

The government's actions convince us that all nations, including Honduras, must strive in every way to keep the independent media from succumbing to state control. In fact, the government's actions are cause for concern. If controlling the main radio newscasts during peak listening hours left us without information, what would happen in this country if the government should also decide to impose daily networks at noon and at night?

Our government professes respect for the freedom of expression; therefore, they should also be respectful of the means for that expression -- the media, which do not deny anyone, even the government, the chance to express themselves.

The government speaks of economic recovery, but it does not mention that such a recovery is in a precarious position -- every time the regime makes a mistake, the country pays the consequences.

In fact, this government has made no significant social change that could be considered a social conquest of the Honduran people. All the topics in the president's recent report prove that something must be done by the administration.

For example, the government has not established an effective agricultural policy; its policy lacks essential elements for the production of our necessities. Furthermore, the government has done nothing regarding communications or for maintenance of the existing roads, which are practically destroyed.

We cannot say that these activities, which are a basic element of any public administration, are good. The government should note that we refuse to recognize its so-called great material, progressive achievements, and that we wish to open a forum so that the people themselves may determine the progressive tasks to be undertaken by this government, so that the people, and not the liberal bureaucracy may be the judge of this government's work. We are willing to offer space on this radio's programs for that forum. We are not afraid to do this, because this country still enjoys the freedom to make decisions, using any means independent journalism can offer. We leave this possibility open.

Meanwhile, we have the opportunity to continue analyzing the president's report on the achievements made during the first 2 years of his administration, despite the lack of the admiration of the people, who can be fooled no longer.

Meanwhile, starting tomorrow, we shall no longer have to endure the trivialities that seem to gag us. In spite of it all, we must admit that we live in a free country, with a respectful government that does not abuse its power.

## NICARAGUA

### ORTEGA-SHULTZ MEETING HELD POSSIBLE IN CARACAS

PA030107 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Excerpt] We have more news from Caracas indicating that 16 heads of state are attending the inauguration of Jaime Lusinchi, Venezuela's new president. Among those who may meet with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz are Spanish Prime Minister Felipe Gonzalez and Argentine President Raul Alfonsin.

Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi has said that he is ready to engage in dialogue with the heads of state to assess Latin America's problems, particularly the Central American situation.

A working agenda has already been drafted for some heads of state, who will probably ask the United States to stop interfering with the Contadora Group's peace efforts.

It has been learned here in Caracas that it is possible that Daniel Ortega, coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction, will meet privately with Secretary of State George Shultz, with the assistance of one of the Contadora Group's leaders.

ASTORGA: REAGAN REELECTION WOULD HARM CONTADORA

PA021456 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Interview with Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Nora Astorga by an unidentified reporter in Panama City on 31 January -- recorded]

[Excerpt] [Reporter] In view of the Contadora Group's peace proposal, how does the Nicaraguan Government see the U.S. Government's political disposition toward the search for a peaceful solution in Central America?

[Astorga] I believe that we must take into account more than just what is happening within Contadora and Nicaragua's political determination to achieve peace and peaceful coexistence among the Central American countries. Above all, we must ask ourselves: What is U.S. imperialism's political position? It is very important to understand this. On the one hand, the Contadora Group is making efforts to achieve peace. However, if, on the other hand, one of the parties, that is the United States, is not willing to reach specific agreements -- for example, on dismantling foreign military bases in the region, on withdrawing advisers, on ending military maneuvers, on suspending arms shipments, and on withdrawing military advisers from the area -- if there is no political disposition toward these things on the part of the United States, and if the United States insists on using military measures to solve problems -- as Stone and other U.S. officials have recently said -- as long as there is no U.S. political disposition to allow the Central American countries to reach agreements leading to the establishment of peace in Central America, then it will be difficult to reach any agreement.

[Reporter] Companera Astorga, how does the Nicaraguan Government view Reagan's decision to run for reelection despite international criticism of his foreign policy?

[Astorga] His policy has received practically unanimous opposition, because his critics advocate a negotiated solution to the Central American conflict. The Contadora Group, which might facilitate such a solution of the problems, has been broadly supported at the international level. However, you surely heard Mr Stone's statement yesterday to the effect that the United States is no longer supporting the Contadora Group as it previously had claimed, even though in practice it did the opposite. He said that his country now has reservations and that though it supports the Contadora Group, it does not agree with some of its views. Yesterday, Colombian Foreign Minister Lloreda noted the importance of U.S. verbal and practical support for the efforts being made to find a political solution to the various Central American problems, which are many. However, we believe that there are two basic problems: One is the foreign aggression being experienced by Nicaragua, and the second is the Salvadoran problem, to which a political solution must be found.

[Reporter] Would President Reagan's reelection affect the Contadora Group's peace efforts?

[Astorga] Definitely, because during his first term as U.S. President Reagan has advocated the use of a military solution to all problems. The fact that he insists on a military solution for non-military problems, for political problems strongly tied to the economic and social conditions of our peoples, means that he does not support the region's peace efforts. Therefore, if Reagan runs and is reelected by the U.S. people, we do not really foresee a change in that policy. We would have another 4 years of problems.

PPSC LEADER ON 1985 ELECTION, REAGAN PLANS

PA011846 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] The electoral process is a great opportunity for all Nicaraguans to express themselves both politically and ideologically in any of the parties that make up the country's political spectrum, Cesar Delgadillo, co-secretary general of the Popular Social Christian Party, [PPSC], said during an exclusive interview granted to this newscast. Commenting on the Nicaraguan military's right to vote, a subject that has elicited a lot of controversy on the part of certain right-wing parties, Delgadillo said that the PPSC feels that, as professionals, the military has every right to vote in the 1985 election. He stressed that his party disagrees completely with the request by certain sectors that the election in our country be supervised since, he said, to let someone supervise the election would be tantamount to permitting a de facto intervention in Nicaragua.

Commenting on President Ronald Reagan's recent announcement that he plans to run for a second 4-year term, Delgadillo said that it is worrisome to see such an inauspicious person for the hemisphere and the entire world running for a second term in office. The political leader said in conclusion: We trust to God that his reelection will not materialize, because it would be disastrous for the world.

MAP ON PARTY'S INCLUSION IN STATE COUNCIL

PA012021 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 30 Jan 84

[Text] Managua -- The Marxist-Leninist People's Action Movement [MAP], yesterday rebuked the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction for having incorporated the rightist Social Democratic Party [PSD] into the State Council and not that (?organization).

A communique released by the Marxist organization pointed out that those who speak of democracy [word indistinct] cannot make exceptions, because they would then demonstrate that they are really speaking of democracy for only a few.

According to the communique, the acceptance of the PSD into the State Council is an action (?at variance) with the pluralist line that the national reconstruction government allegedly follows.

The MAP leaders questioned the fact that the government has not accepted a revolutionary labor party such as theirs, but has included a markedly pro-imperialist party in the Sate Council.

PLI NAMES DELEGATES TO NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

PA030103 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The Liberal Independent Party, PLI, has designated its representatives to the National Assembly of Political Parties, which will regulate the parties' activities during the electoral process. The PLI registered the names of Dr Juan Manuel Gutierrez and Dr Buenaventura Selva at the Supreme Court yesterday.

With these designations, the PLI has complied with one of the requirements of the electoral process.

TIRADO SPEAKS ON MILITARY ROLE IN ELECTIONS

PA030428 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 30 Jan 84 p 5

[Excerpt] "The people in arms are the nucleus of Nicaragua's society, and play the leading role in the revolution's primary social changes. Thus, the military have not only the right to vote but the right to participate in the process of arriving at all fundamental decisions," Victor Tirado, commander of the revolution and FSLN National Directorate member, said yesterday.

At the end of the first UNAG [National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen] National Council, assembly, in which its activities were assessed and its 1984 goals were set, the Sandinist leader, referring to the elections, said that the revolution pits the majority against minority groups with no decision-making power.

"The revolution's majority forces will decide here," Tirado said, adding that this is a battle between two worlds and two systems, "one that is dying hopelessly and another that is in the process of a painful birth."

"Ours is a patriotic plan, while the other belongs to the United States, sponsored by the Reagan administration and supported by turncoats and the right-wing parties," Tirado said.

"Their plan is unrealistic," the Sandinist leader said, "because it would constitute a return to the genocidal guards and counterrevolutionary leaders, a return to a lack of culture and to unemployment, the return of the land that we have given the peasants, and an end to health and education."

GOVERNMENT ANNOUNCES NEW SALARY POLICY

PA021336 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The revolutionary government announced its new salary policy today during a news conference at which Commander of the Revolution Jaime Wheelock Roman; Labor Minister Virgilio Godoy; Pedro Antonio Blandon, deputy agricultural development and agrarian reform minister; and other high-ranking officials of the Agricultural Development and Agrarian Reform Ministry were present.

Godoy himself announced the new policy, which will be applied gradually to each of the people's production sectors. He said that, for instance, the salary policy will be implemented in the cotton sector, in which the salary has been increased to 40 cordobas per quintal of picked cotton, with a gradual increase of 20 cordovas after the first 8 quintals of picked raw cotton.

Godoy said that both the workers and employers must show patience regarding the new salary policy and bear in mind the crucial times our people are experiencing. The previous salary was 30 cordobas per quintal of picked cotton and did not include the current fringe benefits.

Godoy said the old minimum wages will be replaced by new salaries under the new policy. It should be noted, however, that the new policy is being implemented only in the cotton sector and that the other sectors will follow at a later date, he said.

BRIEFS

NEW MILITIA BATTALION -- The Augusto Cesar Militia Battalion has been formed in Niquinohomo. Its members are mostly from Niquinohomo, Catarina, and San Juan de Oriente. It includes 500 members. [Summary] [Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 23 Jan 84 p 5 PA]

AFP CITED ON PRESIDENT REAGAN'S PROPOSED BUDGET

FL021924 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] By sending his record $305 million military budget to the U.S. Senate, President Reagan has confirmed his intention to arm the United States to the teeth in order to try to force the Soviet Union to negotiate and to threaten the world.

According to AFP, $264.4 billion of the amount requested by the Defense Department will be spent during fiscal year 1985 and the rest will be distributed among programs in future years.

AFP notes that the projected 1985 budget exceeds that of 1984 by $4.6 billion. It adds that with this budget, Reagan maintains his economic defiance, that is, the continuation for at least 1 year of a $180 billion budgetary deficit.

MONTANE MEETS WITH GUYANA'S CHEDDI JAGAN

FL021502 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Jesus Montane Oropesa, alternate member of the Politburo and member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of Cuba, held a fraternal meeting in Havana with Cheddi Jagan, secretary general of the People's Progressive Party of Guyana.

During the talks, they discussed subjects of mutual interest and analyzed the basic problems of the Caribbean and Central America, as well as the efforts by both parties in the struggle for peace, sovereignty of peoples, and national independence.

CASTRO PRESENTS AWARDS AT SPARE PARTS FORUM

FL021306 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Commander in Chief Fidel Castro, president of the Councils of State and Ministers, personally presented awards to the authors of the 24 best reports presented at the second national forum on the recovery and manufacture of spare parts.

During the concluding ceremony of the forum, Fidel congratulated the top three entrants and spoke briefly with each report author, expressing interest in details of their projects as he shook hands with them.

Also presiding over the activity at the Karl Marx Theater were Politburo members Guillermo Garcia, Pedro Miret, Sergio del Valle, and Julio Camacho Aguilera, as well as Roberto Veiga, alternate member of the Politburo and secretary general of the Central Organization of Cuban Trade Unions.

Fidel received a photo album of the minihydroelectric power plant at the foot of Pico Turquino, which can produce 120 kw of electricity.

Summarizing the ceremony, Miret pointed out that the struggle for quality should dominate the impetuous development that today characterizes the manufacture and recovery of spare parts.

The national forum met for 3 days at the Palace of Conventions, climaxing more than 4,300 inter-office meetings and exchanges of information with nearly 150 participants throughout the country.

HYDROLOGICAL EXPEDITION COMPLETES RESEARCH

FL021346 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1200 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The Jose Marti Hydrological Expedition, organized by the Institute of Hydroeconomy in commemoration of the 131st anniversary of the national hero's birth, successfully concluded its scientific-technical research, which was carried out during a 1-week period on Pico Turquino.

Participating in this important activity was a group of outstanding specialists, professionals, technicians, and workers, as well as advisers from the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and Bulgaria. The group studied aspects of hydrometorology, hydrometry, geophysics, and hydrochemistry.

Observation stations were installed at different points on the ascent of the mountain, the highest in Cuba and third highest in the Caribbean region. These permitted the hourly measurements of temperature, relative humidity, and the speed and direction of the wind.

The group measured the duration of solar light, rainfall, and atmospheric and barometric pressure. It also performed geological reconnaissance of riverbeds and spring areas.

ITM COMMEMORATES ANNIVERSARY WITH PARADE

FL021420 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1235 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The ceremony to commemorate the 17th anniversary of the founding of the Military Technical Institute [ITM] -- inaugurated by Commander in Chief Fidel Castro on 1 February 1977 [year as heard] -- began with a colorful military parade.

Since its founding, this top military academy has given hundreds of top quality officers, technicians, and engineers a sound military, political, and ideological training, which they have used on their respective fronts to improve the FAR's fighting ability.

Fernando Vecino Alegret, minister of higher education and member of the party's Central Committee; and Division General Ulises Rosales del Toro, member of the party's Central Committee, first deputy minister of the FAR (primer sustituto del ministro de la FAR) and chief of the General Staff, presided over the event. Other FAR commanders and officers, as well as relatives of the most outstanding cadets, attended the ceremony.

In addition to contributing to the training of future military cadres, the ITM has carried out an important task in the preparation of units and cadres of the Territorial Militia Troops.

SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS VIEW DIFFICULTIES IN USSR

FL022030 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The Council of Cuban Scholarships Students in the USSR has continued its sessions in Moscow where students are analyzing aspects of their school and social lives. During a session of the council meeting, one of the items discussed was student transportation between the two countries and the difficulties faced by the Ministry of Education with the youths' travels.

One of the most debated issues was outside activities, which are numerous, and help not only in the student professional development, but in his social development as well.

The council also studied the results of the academic performance of the students during the first semester of the 1983-1984 school year, which concluded recently. These results show that the passing grades were higher and that the efforts of the groups were successful.

RADIO ANALYZES GRENADA SITUATION, U.S. PLANS

PA021755 Havana International Service in Spanish 2310 GMT 1 Feb 84

["Our America" commentary]

[Excerpts] The U.S. Government so far has been unable to fabricate in occupied Grenada a government that will allow Washington to temporarily forget that small eastern Caribbean island which the United States invaded on 25 October of last year. Since then, the situation on Grenada has been characterized as one of political and administrative instability, with looting by the occupation forces of the United States and its allies.

The White House is moving its pawns so as to put in power people who have proven their loyalty to imperialism. Former dictator Eric Gairy returned to Grenada a week ago under the discreet protection of the U.S. occupation forces. He has admitted to a political motive for his return.

When the former dictator arrived, he was dismayed by how few sympathizers were on hand to greet him. Gairy later swore and complained that the invasion troops still on the island failed to give him military protection on his way from the airport to the capital. Gairy did not like this, as he already considers himself one of the cards in the electoral deck which the United States is stacking for Grenada this year.

Some news sources believe that the White House will back the center-right Democratic Movement of Grenada, which is composed of intellectuals, including several academicians. This organization operated in the United States during the Bishop administration and is headed by university professor (Francis Alexis). Caribbean news media say that (Alexis) and his party seek an alliance with other conservative groups in the political party array under U.S. military occupation.

The United States is evaluating Gairy's fate as well as that of elements in other political parties, most of which have no domestic roots, since their leaders lived abroad until the Yankee invasion of 25 October.

The U.S. Department of State and the provisional executive council of Grenada, presided over by Nicholas Brathwaite and supervised by Governor Paul Scoon, are trying to destroy the New Jewel Movement by all means. Several political leaders of Bishop's party are in jail and others were forced into exile far from Grenada.

The trip that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will make to Grenada in the near future will serve to define Washington's alternatives for the announced general elections. It is expected that Shultz will arrive on the island at the beginning of this month. Once there, he will decide what domestic political situation, manipulated from the White House, will best serve to strengthen the U.S. imperialist domination of Grenada.

## ARDE MEMBERS DENIED REFUGEE STATUS IN COSTA RICA

### Armed Group Arrested

PA022200 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] About 200 Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries who entered Costa Rica on Eden Pastora's orders have been taken to an unknown destination by local authorities.

The Democratic Revolutionary Alliance, ARDE, members arrived in Costa Rica in the past weekend on the pretext that they lack the necessary arms, food, medicine, and clothing to continue fighting against the National Reconstruction Government of Nicaragua.

On Tuesday, the Judicial Investigation Agency in Ciudad Quesada arrested an armed group that operated on Pastora's orders, while the Costa Rican Government enforced its policy of neutrality in Central America's conflicts by preventing the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries from setting up camps in Costa Rica.

It was reported, however, that armed members of ARDE often go through the streets of Ciudad Quesada with the complicity of some Rural Guard officers, including the recently dismissed Colonel Gilberto Orozco, who allowed the alleged refugees to enter Costa Rica.

Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez has asserted that his country's government will not return the detained ARDE members to Pastora. He also stressed that the 200 men who entered the country recently will not be granted the status of military refugees.

### 200 Taken to Camps

FL022148 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] About 200 Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries who were taken into Costa Rica by Eden Pastora were labelled refugees by local authorities and led to camps far from the Nicaraguan border. The government in San Jose exercised its policy of neutrality toward armed conflict in Central America to keep the Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries from settling in the country.

Pastora's men, saying they lacked arms and supplies to continue fighting against the Sandinist government, entered Costa Rica at a point located near the town of Quesada, where Pastora and Alfonso Robelo, another counterrevolutionary, own several businesses. Pastora's men steal livestock in Nicaragua and drive it across the San Juan River, which is located on the Nicaraguan-Costa Rican border and is difficult to patrol.

## EL SALVADOR'S FMLN ON REAGAN'S REELECTION BID

FL021926 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1100 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The FMLN has attacked U.S. President Reagan for his announcement that he will run for a second term. The FMLN stated in a radio broadcast that 3 years ago Reagan offered to restore patriotism. Instead he has stimulated a feeling of warlike hysteria, and his mistaken policy can only reap new failures throughout the world.

The FMLN characterized President Ronald Reagan as a mediocre actor, who played a cowboy in movies and went on to become one of the most ominous personalities in the history of humanity.

U.S. TO INCREASE INVOLVEMENT IN EL SALVADOR

PA030317 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The United States will increase its training of the Salvadoran Army through intensive courses in counterinsurgency techniques, according to a military spokesman in San Salvador.

The program has already begun by transferring 1,000 Salvadoran youths, who were recruited by force in the past week, to the so-called School of the Americas in Panama. These youths will be part of a specialized battalion, which will be similar to contingents formed by Salvadoran soldiers in the United States and Honduras.

Concerned about the Salvadoran Army's low morale, U.S. military advisers insist that El Salvador's Armed Forces should change their combat tactics, introducing a new strategy that could defend against a guerrilla advancement. Alvaro Magana's regime plans to use U.S. military aid to increase its military forces by 20 percent and to renew its war arsenal.

Meanwhile, there are reports of strong clashes between the Salvadoran insurgents and the Army troops in Usulutan, San Miguel, and Cuscatlan Departments, where the Air Force is carrying out criminal bomb attacks on the civilian population. It was also reported that the FMLN released and turned over to the Red Cross three prisoners of war who were captured 13 January during the guerrilla attack on the city of Chalatenango.

UNIDENTIFIED MEN KILL GUATEMALAN POLICE OFFICER

FL021447 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1235 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Unidentified men have shot to death a top Guatemalan police officers. Also, military forces blocked every access to Guatemala City and conducted intensive patrol missions to prevent guerrilla attacks.

According to the press, Edilberto Gomez, third chief of the Police's Technical Investigation Department, was found dead after a fire fight in one of the main streets of Guatemala City.

Colonel (Rodolfo Logo Zamora), chief of the Army General Staff, told newsmen that the widespread military operation in the city is part of permanent security plans. However, Government Minister Gustavo Adolfo Lopez admitted that the special state of alert is aimed at counteracting rebel activities.

WEINBERGER SAYS U.S. TO REMAIN IN HONDURAS

PA030332 Havana International Service in Spanish 1600 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger has reiterated that the United States will maintain its military presence in Honduras after the joint maneuvers with that Central American country have concluded.

Speaking before the Senate Armed Services Committee, Weinberger said that at least 700 or 800 U.S. soldiers will remain in Honduras following the "Big Pine II" maneuvers until the new maneuvers, scheduled to take place next June or earlier, have begun.

Weinberger said that if maneuvers are carried out for 2 or 3 consecutive years in any given country, there is the advantage of being able to keep the heaviest equipment there instead of removing it.

The first joint military maneuvers were carried out in the early months of 1983, and since then Honduras has become the main operational center for the Nicaraguan counter-revolutionaries, who receive U.S. military and financial aid.

ORTEGA TO ANNOUNCE NICARAGUAN ELECTION DATE

PA021500 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] At Caracas Airport, Commander Daniel Ortega [coordinator of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction] told the press that the date of the general elections scheduled for 1985 in Nicaragua will be announced on 21 February.

ECUADOR'S BORJA VIEWS ELECTION RESULTS

PA021748 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Social Democratic politician Rodrigo Borja, winner of the first round in last Sunday's presidential elections in Ecuador, announced in Quito that he will invite all center-leftist parties to share responsibility in the next government if he wins the second electoral round on 6 May.

During a press conference with foreign correspondents, Borja dismissed the possibility of a military coup and said that the antidemocratic forces have nowhere else to go if they claim there has been a fraud.

These forces are grouped in the National Reconstruction Front, which includes six parties and a rightist movement. This front endorsed Leon Febres for the presidency, and he came in second in the elections. Febres accused the Supreme Electoral Tribunal of fraud in favor of Borja.

In this regard, Borja asserted that it is one thing to say mistakes were made in the elections and quite another when the right speaks of fraud. Had the antidemocratic sectors won the first round, they would have said this was due to their candidates' great merits. The right is the same everywhere, Borja asserted.

Ecuadoran National Congress [as heard] President Gary Espinoza has said that last Sunday's elections reaffirmed the Ecuadoreans' democratic inclinations.

THREE CUBAN 'UNDESIRABLES' ARRESTED IN LIMA

PA021735 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] A Cuban undesirable was arrested while taking photographs of the Peruvian Aeronautics Ministry building in Lima in a way described as suspicious. Juan Molina Diaz was arrested by the Peruvian investigations police.

Policemen also arrested Elena Sanchez Albez and her daughter, both Cuban undesirables, as they were about to leave Peru with false passports.

NEW VENEZUELAN OFFICIAL ON C.A., CONTADORA

PA021546 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Simon Alberto Consalvi, secretary of the Presidency of the government that will assume office tomorrow in Venezuela, described as very serious the current political situation in Central America, pointing out that the report presented by the so-called Kissinger commission does not in any way alter the traditional policy of the United States toward the region.

In declarations to PRENSA LATINA, Consalvi stressed that the new Venezuelan Government will work hard so that the Contadora Group, of which Venezuela is a part, attains speedy, positive results.

Consalvi added that Venezuela expects and hopes that the Central American peoples will be given the opportunity to determine their own destiny, without foreign intervention. He added that President-elect Jaime Lusinchi's government opposes any armed intervention by the United States or any other country in Central America's domestic affairs.

Finally, Consalvi noted the relations between Venezuela and Cuba and expressed his hope that these relations will be beneficial, normal, and positive.

PST ORGANIZES MEXICO-USSR SOLIDARITY WEEK

FL022020 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] The Week of Solidarity and Friendship between Mexico and the Soviet Union has begun in Mexico City, organized by the Mexican Socialist Workers Party [PST].

This event includes a wide program of activities planned by many political parties, unions, and social organizations of this country to honor the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Mexico and the USSR.

BRIEFS

REPRESENTATIVE TO AALAPSO -- Rene Anillo Capote, the new Cuban representative to AALAPSO and alternate member of the Communist Party of Cuba's Central Committee, was presented at a meeting held by the AALAPSO Executive Secretariat and 1 February. Anillo Capote will be the secretary general, a post to which Cuba was elected when this international organization was founded. [Text] [Havana Television Service in Spanish 1315 GMT 2 Feb 84 FL]

NEW LESOTHO AMBASSADOR -- This morning Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, vice president of the Council of State, received Mothusi Thamsanqa Mashologu, who presented his credentials as extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassador of the Kingdom of Lesotho. [Summary] [Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 2230 GMT 2 Feb 84 FL]

## GRENADA

### POLL IDENTIFIES NO PREFERRED FUTURE LEADER

FL030010 Bridgetown CANA in English 2308 GMT 2 Feb 84

[By George Worme]

[Text] St George's, Grenada, Feb 2 (CANA) -- Grenadians seem undecided over whom they would like to see lead their country following the forthcoming elections, according to a public opinion poll conducted here by American university professor William Adams.

Survey results -- a copy of which was made available to CANA today -- showed that about 84 percent of those persons interviewed were unable to name anyone they wanted to see emerge as Grenada's new prime minister. The survey was conducted in St George's, the capital and largest city, on Saturday, January 14, 1984.

The document said some 351 Grenadians were interviewed, consisting of 55 percent men and 44 percent women, and that 31 percent of the persons were over 40 years, 42 percent between the ages 24-39, and 28 percent between the 16-23 age group.

Prime Minister Maurice Bishop, whose left-wing New Jewel Movement (NJM) ruled Grenada since coming to power in a March 1979 coup, was himself executed by the military when it seized power last October 19. Grenada is now in the charge of a non-political interim government pending elections planned for the latter half of this year.

The survey was conducted essentially around the market place where people from throughout the island usually converge on Saturday to buy and sell, with about one-third of the interviews done in other diverse areas around the capital.

The document said that on the question of whom they would like to see emerge as the prime minister from the elections, "people surveyed repeatedly shook their heads in frustration and said there were no good leaders they could trust."

Said the document: "When the subject of new elections was mentioned, many citizens volunteered that the interim government (with U.S. support) should rule for at least a few years, and many voiced objections to holding elections in 1984.

"An astonishing 84 percent of the Grenadians were unable to name anyone that they wanted to see emerge elected as their next prime minister," it added.

The professor from George Washington University reported that fewer than one out of ten Grenadians offered deposed Prime Minister Eric Gairy as their choice for prime minister. Sir Eric, who was ousted in the 1979 NJM coup, has recently returned here after living in exile in the United States. U.S. and Caribbean forces intervened here October 25 to restore order after the strife a week before.

The survey report went on: "(United States President) Ronald Reagan and the United States are extremely popular right now. Grenadians -- who are, at least for the present, reluctant to trust themselves -- are eager to trust the United States.

"Ironically, popular expectations of an American-supported salvation seem so strong and widespread that they may be exceedingly difficult to satisfy. But left unfulfilled, those expectations will be sure to turn to disillusionment, resentment, and anti-American anger.

"In this instance, the United States may be compelled to maintain a heavy continued commitment due to a country's gratitude instead of due to its guerrillas."

The survey indicated that 84 percent of those Grenadians interviewed favoured the invasion to topple the military junta of General Hudson Austin installed in the Army coup. According to the report, about six out of ten Grenadians when asked about the levels of U.S. troop strength on the island said they felt there should be more American soldiers here.

## JAMAICA

### JLP: NECESSARY TO REACH AGREEMENT WITH IMF

FL022053 Bridgetown CANA in English 1823 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Feb 2 (CANA) -- The ruling Jamaica Labour Party (JLP) says that it is "an absolute requirement" for the government to reach an agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) if Jamaica is to secure necessary foreign exchange to keep the country going. But, according to JLP General Secretary Bruce Golding, the party did not accept all the IMF programmes for dealing with developing countries and felt that there was need for reform in the institution.

Jamaica is currently negotiating with the Fund for a U.S. 180 million dollar stand-by credit to replace a three-year facility that was abandoned late last year after IMF technicians insisted that the government failed last September's economic performance criteria. Jamaica had in March of last year failed tests under the U.S. 650 million dollar facility, which was in its final year.

When the government in November announced negotiations for the stand-by credit, which it expected to come on stream from January 1, it devalued the local currency by 43 per cent and created the mechanisms for further "crawling peg" devaluations if necessary.

A recent announcement that domestic credit expansion this year will be limited to 12 per cent is believed to be part of the IMF conditions, and political commentator Carl Stone recently wrote that the Fund was also demanding that the government balance its current account revenue and expenditure and also seek to balance its foreign trade current account.

The government has not said what has held up an agreement with the Fund, though Prime Minister Edward Seaga has said that a programme would go before the executive committee this month.

Asked by reporters for a JLP perspective on the IMF, Golding, who is also the construction minister in Seaga's government, replied: "We recognise the raw power of pramatism that to reach some accord with the IMF is a total, absolute requirement if the country is going to secure the foreign exchange support required to keep this country going. That is not that we accept everything with the IMF or all its programmes."

Golding pointed out that it was not only the financing coming from the IMF that made an accord paramount, for the IMF's "seal of approval" was also necessary to get money elsewhere.

The JLP general secretary said that, like many in the Third World and some of "the more enlightened" developed countries, the JLP recognised there was a need for reforms in the functioning of the IMF to deal with some of its programmes and "whether they address the structural difficulties of a country like Jamaica in 1984."

## TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

### ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN DENIES FINANCE CHARGES

FL011843 Bridgetown CANA in English 1726 GMT 1 Feb 84

[Text] Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Feb 1 (CANA)-- Chairman of the Tobago House of Assembly, former Deputy Prime Minister A.N.P. Robinson, says he will resign his post if an independent commission of inquiry finds allegations made by the central government against the Assembly factual.

Robinson commented in a lengthy statement to the Assembly on an allegation by Minister in the Ministry of Finance Anthony Jacelon that the Tobago House did not return some 53 million dollars (one TT dollar; 41 cents U.S.) in unspent balance in 1981. He also accused the Assembly of employing persons without authority.

Robinson called the charges made by the minister "false, malicious, irresponsible, and utterly outrageous."

"I go further and say that anyone in Minister Jacelon's position and with his knowledge who makes such charges against the Assembly is unfit to hold high public office in this or any civilised society.

"In support of my contention on behalf of this Assembly, I now publicly propose appointment of an independent commission of competence, integrity, and international status to review and report expeditiously on the relations between the Assembly and the central government since the inauguration of the Assembly on December 4, 1980," he said.

Robinson proposed that the commission make recommendations for the proper functioning of the Assembly and the efficient and democratic administration of the island. "Having regard to the history of previous commissions, I, on your behalf, propose that the membership be agreed by the prime minister and the chairman of the Assembly with assistance, if necessary, from the Commonwealth Secretariat.

"This proposal would be acceptable to any civilised government in similar circumstances to those in which we find ourselves.

"I go further and make the public commitment that in the event the minister's allegation proves to be true and correct, I shall forthwith resign my office as chairman of the House of Assembly," Robinson declared.

### BRIEFS

TYPHOID FEVER CASES -- Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, Feb 2 (CANA) -- Health officials in Trinidad and Tobago have reported 14 cases of typhoid fever in the hilly village of Paramin, just north of here. A statement from the Ministry of Information quoted Health Minister Dr Neville Connel, who visited the area last Tuesday, as pointing to the possibility of the disease being spread by contaminated water from wells in the area. Dr Roderick Doughdeen, principal medical officer (epidemiology), said the general pattern of the disease indicated it was spread by the consumption of contaminated food and drink, the statement said. According to the ministry, the water and sewerage authority here is stepping up efforts to bring pipe-borne water to the remote village. Connel toured the area with officials from the Ministry of Health and the Caribbean Epidemiological Centre (CAREC). [Text] [Bridgetown CANA in English 1621 GMT 2 Feb 84 FL]

## COLOMBIA

### TERRORIST BOMBINGS REPORTED IN BUCARAMANGA

PA021255 Bogota Cadena Radial Super in Spanish 0000 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Bucaramanga -- Three bombs of medium intensity exploded today in the capital of Santander Department, causing property damage estimated at more than 200,000 pesos. No casualties were reported.

An Army of National Liberation, ELN, command left pamphlets at the bomb sites expressing disapproval of the bus fare increase, calling it an abuse against the country's working classes.

The authorities said that a man and a woman on a motorcycle placed the bombs in an important sector of Bucaramanga. Fortunately, there were no casualties. Secret police agents are searching the entire city for leads on members of the rebel group.

It has also been learned that military intelligence units are patrolling a large sector of La Belleza municipality, where a subversive group stole 100 sticks of dynamite from a rural road camp. The rebels, who are apparently members of the Trotskyist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, FARC, appeared in Otro Mundo, a village in La Belleza municipality, where they seized the explosives and then fled to the mountains.

## PANAMA

### MISSING COLOMBIAN GUERRILLA'S BODY SAID FOUND

PA030340 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2347 GMT 2 Feb 84

[Text] Panama City, 2 Feb (ACAN-EFE) -- The wreckage of a light aircraft believed to be the one in which Jaime Bateman, the missing Colombian guerrilla leader, was traveling, was found today in a mountainous region of Panama's Atlantic coast.

The wreckage of the light aircraft, registered as HK-2139, and the bodies of four others were found by mountain residents living near Kitankuntiki in the San Blas region of Panama.

According to press reports, documents found at the site of the accident identify the victims as Ana Mercedes Estupinan Salazar, Ricardo Jose Alarcon Nunez, Jesus Arjaib Rodriguez, and Antonio Escobar Bravo.

Reliable sources told ACAN-EFE that the wreckage matches the description of the light aircraft in which Bateman, a top-ranking leader of the 19 April Movement, M-19, was traveling when he was declared missing 11 months ago. One of the bodies found could be Bateman's. The authorities have not confirmed this.

At the time of the accident, sources in Bogota reported that Bateman was traveling in secrecy from Santa Marta, Colombia, to Panama to meet with Colombian authorites.

The deputy attorney general of Panama and the National Department of Investigation are looking into the matter.